GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A MYTHBUSTER?

HIT TELEVISION SHOW CREATES EXHIBIT AT CHICAGO MUSEUM PAGE 25

VANCOUVER metro®

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

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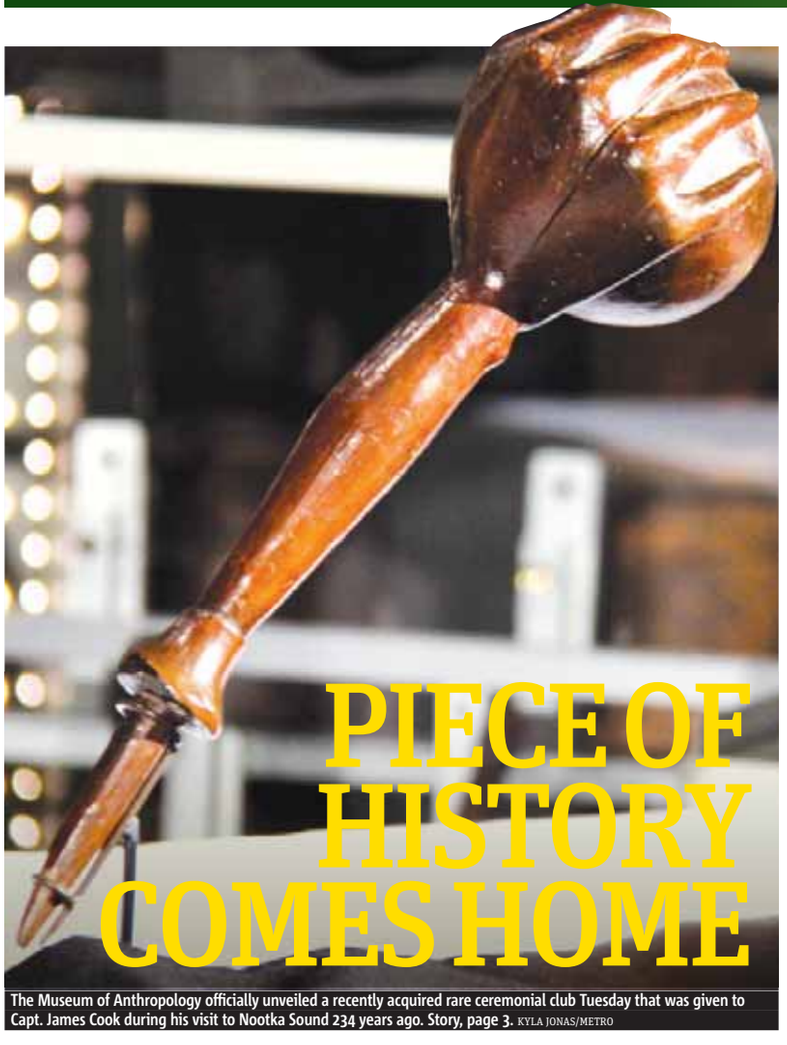

PIECE OF HISTORY COMES HOME

The Museum of Anthropology officially unveiled a recently acquired rare ceremonial club Tuesday that was given to Capt. James Cook during his visit to Nootka Sound 234 years ago. Story, page 3. KYLA JONAS/METRO

B.C. vows to ban tanning beds for youth

Health. Move may help prevent melanoma, says advocate

Kathy Barnard was just 15 when she and her sister picked up a do-it-yourself tanning light from a local department store in Powell River, brought it home and baked under it for more than an hour.

By the time she was finished, Barnard was severely burned but still hooked on getting tanned. It was the beginning of an obsession with tanning that lasted until just before she was diagnosed with cancer a decade ago.

"I was a huge sun worshiper — if I wasn't outside doing sports I was laying in the sun, and then I reverted to a tanning salon in the winter," Barnard, 57, said Tuesday, as the province pledged to ban children and teens from tanning beds.

"Nobody talked about skin cancer," she said. "It was the cancer of older people."

British Columbia plans to introduce regulations in the fall that will ban people under 18 from using indoor tanning equipment, joining Nova Scotia and Victoria, which passed a bylaw against the practice last year.

B.C. is also considering recommendations requiring training and licensing for tanning-salon operators and cancer warning labels.

Barnard was diagnosed with melanoma in 2003 and has survived several serious relapses.

"When we're under 18 we think we're invincible," said Barnard, who now lives in Vancouver and runs the Save Your Skin Foundation. "We could save another life here."

Advocates such as the Canadian Cancer Society have been calling on governments to ban youth from using tanning beds, but progress has been slow.

Steven Gilroy of the Joint Canadian Tanning Association insists the risks have been exaggerated.

Gilroy says when tanning beds are properly maintained and operated, the risk is dramatically reduced.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 6

2 accused in massive fraud

Police uncover 'credit-card factory' in Burnaby PAGE 4

Graham James gets 2 years

Sentence for sex assaults on players spurs outrage PAGE 10

Recipes for a sweet tooth

Try chocolate mango mousse, caramelized apples PAGE 30

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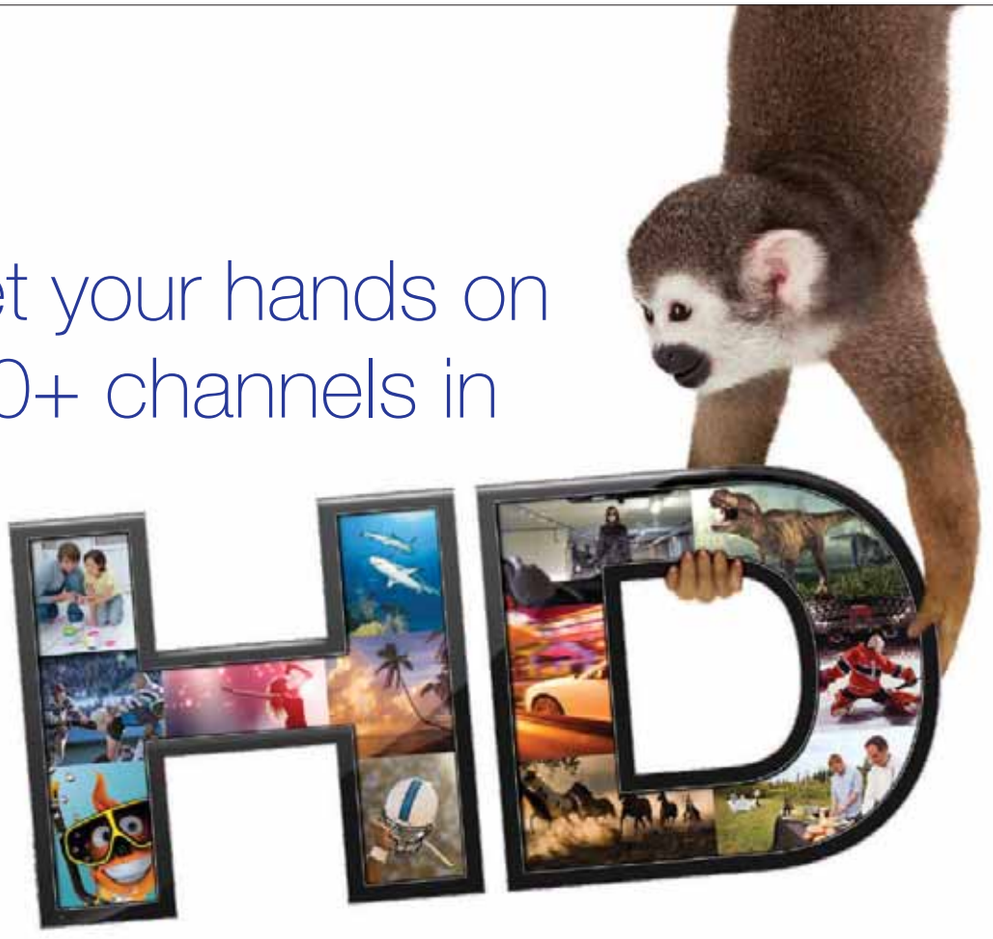

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4711 Kingsway
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Cottonwood Mall
Eagle Landing
45300 Luckakuck Way
7544 Vedder Rd.

Cloverdale
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Coquitlam
Coquitlam Centre
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1071 Austin Ave.
2700B Barnet Hwy.

Delta
Scottsdale Mall
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1517 56th St.

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Walnut Grove Town Centre
Willowbrook Shopping Centre
19638 Fraser Hwy.
19700 Langley Bypass
20159 88th Ave.
20202 66th Ave.

Maple Ridge
Haney Place Mall
22661 Lougheed Hwy.

Mission
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32555 London Ave.

New Westminster
Royal City Centre

North Vancouver
Capilano Mall
Lynn Valley Centre
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Rare aboriginal carved club returning home

$1.2-million artifact. Philanthropist donates Nuu-chah-nulth club to the Museum of Anthropology

KYLA JONAS
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A rare aboriginal carved club has returned to B.C. Tuesday more than 200 years after it was given to explorer Capt. James Cook in 1778.

"I feel lucky it's come home," said Margarita James, president of the Land of Maquinna Cultural Society.

"Items like this were used, they were a part of us and they were a part of our culture."

The club, which in the mid-1700s was carved from yew wood into the shape of a hand holding a sphere, is said to have been used for both functional and ceremonial purposes.

It is valued at $1.2 million.

Philanthropist Michael Audain donated the artifact to the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) after he recently purchased it through a private dealer in New York.

"This is one of the most exciting days of my life," Audain said, smiling ear to ear.

Audain believes Cook is important to West Coast history because he was the first European to land on the shores of what would become B.C., 234 years ago.

During his final voyage, he was given the carved club by the Nuu-chah-nulth people of Vancouver Island.

Anthony Shelton, director of MOA, is honoured to have the artifact join the museum's collection.

"This is an extraordinary and exceptional object with a tremendous amount of power and presence.

"It was part of Capt. Cook's own personal collection, and as such is the final object that remains from that collection that is not already in a public museum."

Audain encourages other collectors to donate their artifacts so that "young First Nations people can once again learn from the traditions of the great artists who have come before."

Anthony Shelton, director of the Museum of Anthropology, stands before the veiled club Tuesday in anticipation of the reveal. KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

Timeline

- **Mid-1700s.** Carved by the Nuu-chah-nulth people of Vancouver Island's west coast.
- **1778.** Gifted to Captain James Cook in Nootka Sound after the two Nuu-chah-nulth communities hosted him.
- **1779.** Held by Cook's widow, Elizabeth Batt, after Cook was murdered in Hawaii.
- **Early 1800s.** On display in the Leverian Museum in London, where it was sold in 1806, and passed through multiple private collections in Britain and the U.S.
- **1967.** Arrives in New York and becomes part of George Terasaki's enormous US $40-million estate collection.
- **2011.** Purchased by philanthropist Michael Audain, driven by his love of Capt. Cook's life of exploring and the work of West Coast First Nation artisans.

1 NEWS

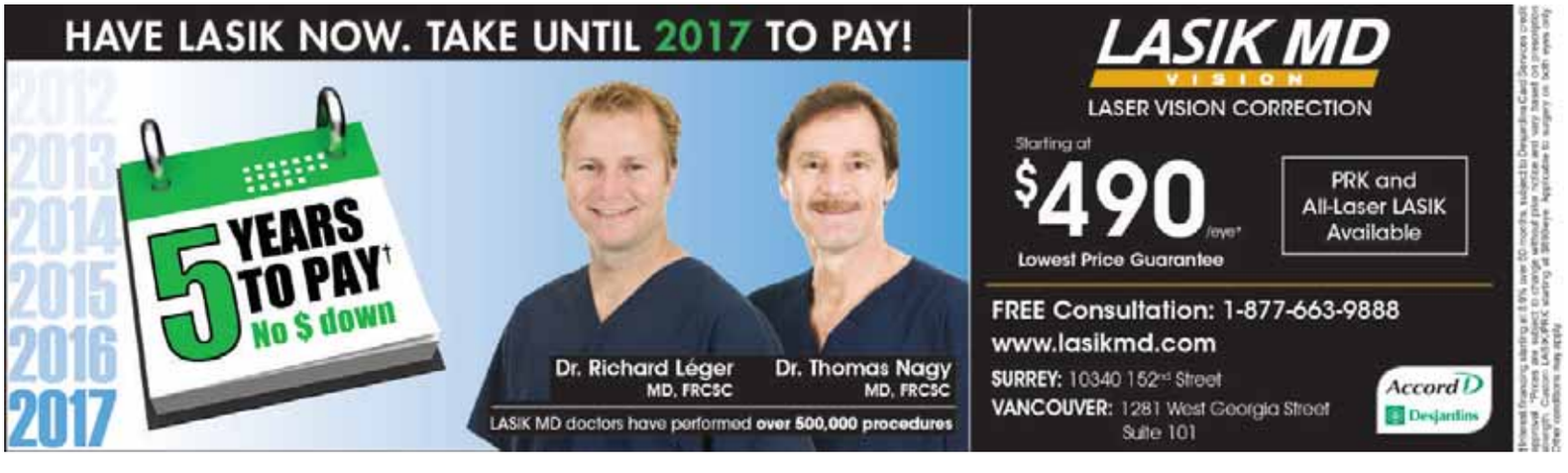
Mobile news

While it might be more comfortable to sleep through a colonoscopy, the side effects of the sedation amount to more than just grogginess. Scan the code for the story.

On the web

Quake ignites memories

A 7.4-magnitude quake shook central and southern Mexico yesterday, reminding some of the bitter memories of the 1985 quake that killed hundreds. For videos, reactions and the science behind the quake, visit metronews.ca



Burnaby pair charged in monster fraud operation

'Credit-card factory.' Mounties seized 3,000 individual forged or stolen credit cards and other pieces of ID in couple's home

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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A Burnaby couple has been charged with multiple fraud-related charges in what a seasoned police officer calls the biggest fraud and ID-theft operation he has ever seen.

Anthony Stulec, 29, and his common-law wife Stephanie Smyth, 21, each face 19 fraud-related charges after police got a tip that led them to an alleged "credit-card factory" in the couple's condo.

"This is very big, very significant," said RCMP Insp. Tim Shields. "I personally have not seen a file of this magnitude."

Police received a tip that an obviously forged credit card had been found by repair-shop employees inside a card printer, which had been brought in to the shop for service.

Officers kept an eye on the man who picked up the printer from the shop and followed him back to an 11th-floor condo in the Metrotown area where the couple was arrested.

On March 7, Mounties seized 3,000 individual forged or stolen credit cards and other pieces of ID in the home. They also found 15 hard drives, several large boxes of stolen mail, a card printer, an embosser, a small amount of ecstasy and marijuana, and thousands of hotel receipts.

Police say the receipts, which contain personal and credit card information, were stolen from the Sandman Hotel in Surrey and the Ramada Hotel on Kingsway in Vancouver.

Tentacles

"There are tentacles that reach out to virtually every municipality in the Lower Mainland, many dozens of businesses."
RCMP Insp. Tim Shields

Shields said investigators have linked information from the recovered IDs to more than 80 home and vehicle break-ins in Burnaby and Vancouver. The investigation will likely last for many months, he added.

"We don't know just how big this thing may get," he said.

Stulec remains in custody, while Smyth has been released on bail.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

The charges

Anthony Stulec and Stephanie Smyth are charged with:

- Possession of a prohibited weapon
- Possession of instruments used to commit forgery
- Making of identity documents
- Possession of stolen mail
- Possession of stolen property — hotel receipts
- Fraudulent use of credit-card data
- Trafficking in forged/altered credit cards

Card printing

Machines normally used for printing IDs at fitness centres

The card-printing machine brought by Anthony Stulec to the repair shop. These machines are normally used for printing IDs at fitness and community centres.

Spreadsheets

Hard drives contained sensitive information

Information found in three of 15 hard drives seized had spreadsheets containing 88,000 credit-card numbers, believed to be stolen from businesses, and more than 44,000 individual identities with full names, social-insurance numbers, addresses, driver's-licence information and banking information.

Canada Post bag

Fraudsters posed as mailmen in data theft: Police

A Canada Post bag and jacket were also seized. Police say stolen mail is a major way fraudsters get identities they can use to impersonate other people. They allege someone was impersonating a Canada Post employee during the theft of mail. Police also seized break-and-enter tools, which they believe could've been used to force open mailboxes.

Weapons

Realistic-looking firearm replicas also seized in search

Police also seized a Taser, three air rifles and two pellet handguns. Mounties say the rifles and handguns were realistic-looking firearm replicas and could have been easily mistaken for more lethal weapons. They say these types of weapons are often used in robberies or other crimes involving threats or intimidation.

Words of caution

"Don't leave your purse, wallet, or any identity documents in your vehicle. Don't throw your personal mail in the garbage or into recycling. It needs to be shredded.... Don't provide personal information over the phone unless you're 100 per cent sure you know who you're speaking with.
RCMP Insp. Tim Shields

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Crime

Offender nabbed after months at large

A man wanted in B.C. was arrested in Alberta.

Barrie Quirt Friesen, 52, who has almost 90 prior convictions to his name, was arrested Monday in Sherwood Park.

Friesen was wanted for failing to report to Kamloops as part of the conditions of his release.

He is facing several new charges in both B.C. and Alberta.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Theft

Woman arrested on two occasions in single week

Surrey resident Janet Milne has been arrested for the second time in a week on allegations of theft, mischief and possession of stolen property.

On March 7, Milne was arrested for allegedly attempting to steal metals, and was arrested again on March 14 for allegedly stealing wire and breaking into a vehicle.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Finance

B.C. first province to release budget as open data

The provincial government has released its 2012 budget in the form of open-access documents for public use and analysis.

"I'm proud of the work we've done to make the government more open and accountable to the citizens we serve," said Labour Minister Margaret MacDiarmid.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Arrest

Arrest made after death in North Kamloops

RCMP say one man is dead and another has been arrested after a violent altercation in a North Kamloops home Tuesday afternoon.

Staff Sgt. Grant Learned said the two men involved knew each other.

Neighbour Kal Kular said he knows the family and is shocked to hear someone has died.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy

B.C.'s growth to be near Canadian average: RBC

A new bank forecast says B.C.'s economic growth this year will be near the national average of about 2.6 per cent.

The Royal Bank expects things to be even better next year, with the provincial economy expanding by almost three per cent.

The bank says a federal shipbuilding contract will play a key role.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seniors

NDP blasts DriveABLE changes

The NDP says the B.C. government's changes to assessing elderly drivers are just Band-Aid solutions that don't really fix the problem.

Under changes to the DriveABLE program announced Monday, a senior who fails a computer-based driving assessment can still take a road test to keep their driver's licence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pogo-stick marathon gives lift to food-bank society

Boink Day. Annual event at Vancouver Art Gallery aims to earn $6K

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Could you boink for 12 hours straight?

That's what about a dozen volunteers did on Tuesday during the third-ever Boink Day at the Vancouver Art Gallery, an annual pogo-stick marathon that raises money for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society.

Boink Day co-founder and Spring Advertising creative director Rob Schlyecher said his company bought a bunch of pogo sticks for the first Boink Day for about $50 each, and for the most part they have weathered their punishment well.

"This is our third year using them. I think last year we had to replace one after the first year, because we had about a 300-pound construction worker go through the pedals," Schlyecher said. "He bounced right back up and laughed his head off."

For every exuberant bounce, Spring donates 10 cents to the food bank, and on top of that volunteers collect donations from passersby.

"This is a time of year when we're getting out of winter, and particularly as Canadians ... an act of goodwill on the first day of spring ought to be a tradition," Schlyecher added.

The first two years raised a combined total of about $7,000. The team's goal was to raise another $6,000 this year.

To donate, visit boinkday.com or foodbank.bc.ca.

Online

For more news, visit metronews.ca

Volunteers "boink" on pogo sticks outside the Vancouver Art Gallery Tuesday. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Salon owners not hot on planned tanning ban

A worker cleans a tanning bed in North Vancouver Tuesday.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Some owners of Vancouver tanning salons are getting all red in the face over a proposed age restriction on the use of their services.

The province said Tuesday that it will ban the use of indoor tanning equipment by youth under the age of 18, following the recommendations of a government report.

The report, which was drafted with the help of the Canadian Cancer Society and the Joint Canadian Tanning Association (JCTA), noted that indoor tanning before the age of 35 can increase the lifetime risk of melanoma by as much as 75 per cent.

Famena Briakowski, owner of Solaire Eclipse Tanning Studio in Yaletown, said that the idea of a ban is misguided.

"I've run this salon for over 10 years," she said. "I can count on one hand the number of teens who have come in here."

Even so, Briakowski doesn't think it's appropriate "to take people's rights away, no matter what it is."

The government report put forward mandatory parental consent, which Briakowski has always required at her salon, as a possible alternative to a ban. This option was supported only by the JCTA.

The option of a ban was supported by all other participating organizations, including the Canadian Cancer Society, the BC Cancer Association and the Canadian Dermatology Association.

Under the proposed restrictions, teens would require a medical prescription to use indoor tanning equipment.

Last year, both Nova Scotia and Victoria implemented similar bans, along with Australia and parts of Europe. Many public-health agencies expect to see age restrictions on tanning implemented Canada-wide over the next few years.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Jamaica	from $365 + taxes & fees $265

Airfares

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from $199
+ taxes & fees $569

Frankfurt	from $169 + taxes & fees $553
Las Vegas	from $198 + taxes & fees $114
Toronto	from $229 + taxes & fees $230
Los Angeles	from $259 + taxes & fees $99
Amsterdam	from $299 + taxes & fees $486
San Diego	from $319 + taxes & fees $123
New York	from $469 + taxes & fees $170
Sydney	from $569 + taxes & fees $813
Tokyo	from $1016 + taxes & fees $713

USA

Anaheim
Family Special, Air + 3 Nights
from $234◊
+ taxes & fees $121

INCLUDES central accom with free transportation to major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $7 per night. **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $279.

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights — from $199* + taxes & fees $51

INCLUDES airfare from Bellingham and accom on the Strip.

California Air + 7-Day Car — from $459 + taxes & fees $112

INCLUDES airfare into San Francisco, return from San Diego and 7-day compact car rental with unlimited mileage.

Orlando
Family Special, Air + 7 Nights — from $529◊ + taxes & fees $132

INCLUDES central accom with free transportation to major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $7 per night. **ADD** 3-day Universal Park to Park Pass from $142/adult, $130/child (ages 3-9). **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $639.

Maui Family Special
Air + 7 Nights — from $569◊ + taxes & fees $142

INCLUDES 1-bedroom condo style Kihei accom. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $25 per night. **BOOK** package based on double occupancy from $789.

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights — from $689 + taxes & fees $122

INCLUDES central accom near Waikiki Beach. **ADD** Star Sunset dinner show cruise from $116.

Long Stays

Orlando
Air + 21 Nights
from $899
+ taxes & fees $132

INCLUDES Kissimmee accom near attractions, championship golf and shopping. **ADD** 22-day economy car rental from $20 per day.

Australia Air + 21 Days — from $998 + taxes & fees $871

INCLUDES airfare to Brisbane and campervan rental with linen, cookware and unlimited mileage included.

Algarve Air + 22 Nights — from $1499 + taxes & fees $597

INCLUDES 21-night beachfront resort accom in Albufeira, and 1-night Frankfurt airport accom.

Canada

Harrison Hot Springs
1 Night
from $65
taxes & fees included

INCLUDES accom on the shores of Harrison Lake. **ADD** car rental with unlimited mileage from $66.

Banff 2 Nights 4-Star — from $185 taxes & fees included

INCLUDES accom on Tunnel Mountain. **UPGRADE** to 4.5-star accom from $40 per night.

Vacations

Venice 7-Day River Boat
from $697^
taxes & fees included

INCLUDES self-drive boat charter on the Venetian Lagoon in Italy with bedding, bathrooms, kitchen galley and sundecks. Price based on family of 4. Damage waiver is included in price.

London Air + 6 Nights — from $749 + taxes & fees $615

INCLUDES central accom near Knightsbridge, Chelsea and Hyde park. **ADD** London Eye Ticket Fast Track from $49.

Phuket Air + 10 Nights — from $1155 + taxes & fees $428

INCLUDES hillside accom along Karon Beach. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $8 per night. **ADD** elephant trek from $54.

Buenos Aires Air + 8 Nights — from $1335 + taxes & fees $694

INCLUDES central accom near Plaza Libertad. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $28 per night. **ADD** city tour from $113.

Cruise & Stays

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights + 3-Night Cruise
from $499
+ taxes & fees $95

INCLUDES 3-night Pacific Coastal cruise sailing from Vancouver to Los Angeles, airfare to Las Vegas, 3 nights accom on the Las Vegas Strip and return airfare to Vancouver. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom & 4.5-star Vegas accom from $23 per night.

San Diego
Air + 3 Nights + 3-Night Cruise — from $549 + taxes & fees $120

INCLUDES all airfare, 3 nights Mission Valley accom and 3-night cruise in an oceanview stateroom sailing from San Diego to Vancouver.

All-inclusive Vacations

Mayan Riviera
7 Nights 4-Star
from $397
+ taxes & fees $335

Puerto Vallarta
7 Nights 4-Star — from $448 + taxes & fees $335

Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4-Star — from $467 + taxes & fees $376

Los Cabos 7 Nights 4-Star — from $548 + taxes & fees $335

Cancun 7 Nights 4-Star — from $667 + taxes & fees $335

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star — from $685 + taxes & fees $286

Cruises

Mediterranean
7-Night Cruise
from $399
+ taxes & fees $112

CRUISE Barcelona to Venice and visit Messina, Dubrovnik, Split and Koper.

Bahamas 3-Night Cruise — from USD $199 + taxes & fees USD $81

CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit CocoCay and Nassau. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from $10 per night.

Southern Caribbean
7-Night Cruise — from USD $379 + taxes & fees USD $79

CRUISE roundtrip San Juan and visit St Thomas, Barbados, St Lucia, St Kitts and St Maarten. **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from $11 per night.

Bermuda 7-Night Cruise — from $479 + taxes & fees $202

CRUISE roundtrip New York City and visit King's Wharf (overnight). **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom for $10 per night.

Hawaii 7-Night Cruise — from USD $949 + taxes & fees USD $74

CRUISE Ensenada to Honolulu and visit Hilo, Kona, Maui (overnight) and Honolulu (overnight). **UPGRADE** to oceanview stateroom from $14 per night.

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Landlord slapped with big fine for leaky roof

First of its kind.
Surrey landlord forced to pay administrative penalty of $115,000

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A Surrey landlord is facing a massive fine for failing to maintain a rental property under the Residential Tenancy Act.

The provincial government announced the action, in the form of a $115,000 fine, Tuesday — marking the first time it has ever levied a administrative penalty under the act.

The penalty includes the maximum one-time penalty of $5,000, plus $500 a day for each of the 220 days the landlord failed to comply with a Residential Tenancy Branch (RTB) order to make repairs to the building.

The case began as a RTB dispute in 2008 between the landlord and the building's caretaker over making repairs to a leaky roof.

The leak threatened the structural integrity of the roof and caused water damage to a number of units within the building, causing the RTB to order repairs for the health and safety of the residents.

But the repairs were not made as the case dragged through the courts.

New legislation in 2008 gave the government power to impose stiff penalties for "serious, repeated non-compliance with the law or with a Dispute Resolution Officer's Decision or order."

The landlord has until May 15 to pay the fine or to reach an agreement that would result in the reduction or possible cancellation of the $115,000 fine.

Development. Province approves controversial resort in B.C. interior

After 22 years, numerous studies, assessments and consultations, the controversial Jumbo Glacier Ski Resort has been approved for development west of Invermere, B.C.

The project could be North America's only year-round glacier-based ski resort.

The planned resort has faced steep opposition from local First Nations and environmentalists, but Forests and Lands Minister Steve Thomson says a decision needed to made on the development.

Thomson says the government has consulted extensively with First Nations and the approval comes with a grizzly-bear management plan and the establishment of a wildlife-management area.

The development is planned in three phases over the 104-hectare resort that could attract up to 3,000 visitors during peak season.

Kootenay East MLA Bill Bennett says the project has divided area residents and communities and he's grateful a final decision has been made.

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Only Cleansing Can Make You Feel This Good

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Two years, two broken lives

Graham James is sentenced. Talk shows and Twitter aflame as hated hockey coach is sent to jail for hundreds of sex assaults on two players

"The most hated man in hockey" became even more reviled Tuesday.

Outrage across Canada was swift as former junior hockey coach Graham James was sentenced to two years in jail for hundreds of sexual assaults on two of his teenage players.

Few seemed to agree the sentence fitted the crime.

A spectator in the Winnipeg courtroom shouted "Yay!" then spat out a more colourful condemnation as James was led away in handcuffs.

"Goodbye, you piece of (expletive)," the man said.

Talk-show phone lines lit up with people expressing harsh views of the sentence. Others took to Twitter to voice their disgust.

"Graham James gets two years for all the lives he's ruined? Someone caught with weed gets a harsher sentence," one person tweeted. "Is that justice?"

Judge Catherine Carlson made James stand up in the prisoner's box to hear his fate.

The 59-year-old — looking gaunt, his head closely shaved — showed no emotion but simply answered "yes" when she asked him if he understood the sentence.

James pleaded guilty in December to repeatedly sexually abusing retired NHL star Theo Fleury and his cousin, Todd Holt, when they played for him in the Western Hockey League in the 1980s and '90s.

Carlson said in her lengthy sentence summation: "There is no sentence this court can impose that will give back to Mr. Holt and Mr. Fleury that which was taken from them by Mr. James."

In Cochrane, Alta., Holt declared: "This sentence today is nothing short of a national travesty because we know that childhood abuse has reached epidemic proportions in our country."

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Graham James, wearing a red ski mask that concealed most of his face, tries to hide from cameras as he arrives at the courthouse in Winnipeg on Tuesday. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The victims

"Graham James is laughing all the way back to the life he has always led, knowing that justice for him is but a blip on the radar."

Todd Holt,
who, along with his cousin, NHLer Theo Fleury, was a victim of James.

"Obviously, it's not a sentence we all want to see. At least he's going back to jail."

Former NHLer Sheldon Kennedy,
one of the original players to come forward with accusations to which James pleaded guilty in 1997.

Quebec's patience snaps as students jam traffic

Students say it loud and proud as they demonstrate in Quebec City on Tuesday. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Quebec government turned its rhetorical water-cannons against student protesters after some of them triggered a monster traffic jam by blocking access to a Montreal bridge Tuesday.

In an abrupt shift in tone, the government expressed its frustration with the students and appeared to be using the traffic chaos on the Champlain Bridge as a launching pad for a broader political message.

With the government facing daily protests and an election approaching, it is now casting its tuition hikes as a struggle pitting groups of student protesters against the broader army of Quebec taxpayers.

Education Minister Line Beauchamp accused the students of "antagonizing the workers who pay for their studies," and of wanting to stick taxpayers with the totality of the rising costs of funding universities.

"It's enough," Beauchamp said.

About 150 students stood across the Champlain Bridge during rush hour in an attempt to pressure the government to back down. Eighty students were rounded up by provincial police and fined $494 each.

Police warn students there will be zero tolerance in the future for anyone blocking fast lanes.

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Anger on campus

What's behind the student protests in Quebec?

- **Hikes.** The province is nearly doubling tuition fees over five years, to about $3,800, after a series of $325-a-year increases.
- **Reality.** But the rates for in-province students are so low they would still be among the lowest in Canada after the increases.
- **Idealism?** Students say it's a question of principle — even modest hikes reduce access to education.

F-35 program

Auditor fires salvo at Ottawa

Canada's auditor general is talking tough over the troubled F-35 stealth-fighter program, say government sources.

Michael Ferguson suggests the air force didn't do its pricing homework and government officials failed to follow procurement rules, the sources say. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harp quota

400,000 seals just too much?

Conservation groups say federal officials are acting "recklessly" by setting an annual harp seal quota of 400,000 animals at a time when markets are drying up.

They say the quota should be lowered this year because of poor ice conditions and declining stock.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seal quota should be lowered, activists say. THE CANADIAN PRESS

House blazes

Inferno kills dogs, puppies

A house undergoing renovations in St. John's caught fire, killing 13 dogs, police said Tuesday.

Police said 10 adult dogs and three puppies were inside the home when it caught fire Tuesday morning. The cause of the fire is being investigated.

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E.coli

Think before you barbecue

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is urging the public to check all ground-beef products in their freezers as a nationwide recall due to possible E.coli contamination affects a growing number of brands.

The agency says all the products — most of them frozen beef burgers — can be identified by the establishment number 761 and were produced between July 1, 2011, and Feb. 15, 2012.

The recall covers some 135 different beef products distributed under various brand names.

They include President's Choice, Best Value, Calgary Stampede, Country Morning Gold, Exclusive Selections, Grillhouse, Irresistibles, Keg, Licks and Maple Lodge Farms.

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Police fear French gunman may have ties to neo-Nazis

Shootings. President Nicolas Sarkozy has raised the terror alert and added 14 new units of riot police to the region after attack

Police searched southern France on Tuesday for an expert gunman suspected of fatally shooting seven people in the head at close range in attacks that may have been motivated by neo-Nazi ties or grudges against minorities.

The shooter is suspected of carrying out three deadly attacks: one leaving four people dead on Monday at a Jewish school in Toulouse, three of them young children; killing two French paratroopers and seriously wounding another last Thursday in nearby Montauban; and fatally shooting another paratrooper in Toulouse on March 11.

All the victims in the school attack were Jewish with duel French-Israeli citizenship, and the paratroopers were of North African or French Caribbean origin.

The shots were fired at such close range that the gunfire burned the skin, prosecutor Francois Molins said Tuesday.

"We are confronted with an individual extremely determined in his actions, an armed individual who acts always with the same modus operandi," he said, "in cold blood ... with premeditated actions."

He added the crimes appear to be premeditated due to the killer's "choices of victims and the choices of his targets" — the army, the foreign origin of the victims or their religion. The killer could "act again," he said.

Interior Minister Claude Gueant described the suspect as "someone very cold, very determined, very much a master of his movements, and by consequence, very cruel."

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Mourners follow the hearse carrying the coffins of the victims following a ceremony at the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school, in France, where a gunman killed four people. REMY DE LA MAUVINIERE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earthquake in Mexico City topples buildings and sends terrified residents fleeing

A woman comforts her crying children outside a school in the Roma neighbourhood after an earthquake was felt in Mexico City on Tuesday. A strong, long earthquake with its epicentre in Guerrero state shook central southern Mexico, swaying buildings in Mexico City and sending frightened workers and residents into the streets. More than 60 homes were damaged near the epicentre. Fear and panic spread as a less powerful, magnitude-5.1 aftershock was also felt in the capital, where there were no reports of deaths by press time. ALEXANDRE MENEGHINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Lawyer: Slain teen's girlfriend heard fight that led to shooting

The attorney for the family of a black teenager fatally shot by a neighbourhood-watch captain said Tuesday that the boy was talking to his girlfriend on his cellphone when the confrontation began. She heard an exchange of words, what sounded like a scuffle, but not the shooting.

The phone call was discussed at a news conference that followed announcements that the U.S. Justice Department would probe the death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin and that a local grand jury will also consider evidence in the case.

George Zimmerman, 28, claims he shot Martin in self-defence during the confrontation last month in a gated community in Sanford, Fla.

Attorney Benjamin Crump, who represents Martin's parents, said he plans to turn over information about the call to federal investigators who are looking into the case. The Justice Department announced their involvement late Monday.

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Trayvon Martin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/MARTIN FAMILY

Off-colour joke. Obama criticized for Robert De Niro's joke at event

In a country that asked itself just four short years ago if it was ready for its first black president, a joke by famed actor Robert De Niro at a star-studded Manhattan fundraiser for U.S. President Barack Obama has caused a curious stir.

"Callista Gingrich. Karen Santorum. Ann Romney. Now, do you really think our country is ready for a white first lady?" the actor said to roars of laughter from a crowd that included Michelle Obama.

When someone in the audience yelled: "No!" DeNiro continued, "Too soon, right?" But in a nation where hot-button race issues loom large, Obama's re-election campaign team was quick to distance itself from the remark while Newt Gingrich, the Republican presidential hopeful with a fondness for hyperbole, demanded the president apologize for it.

"We believe the joke was inappropriate," Olivia Alair, campaign press secretary to Michelle Obama, said in a statement.

Gingrich went much further, calling it "inexcusable."

"On behalf of my wife and on behalf of Karen Santorum and on behalf of Ann Romney — I think that Robert De Niro's wrong," Gingrich said at a campaign stop in Louisiana. "I think the country is ready for a new first lady and he doesn't have to describe it in racial terms."

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Old rules trip migrant workers

Education. Rural citizens working in big Chinese cities can't send their kids to public school there, and some parents are protesting

JORDAN POUILLE
Metro World News in Beijing

Pupils in the poor backcountry of Hubei province will have to study hard, and struggle, if they want to go to university. JORDAN POUILLE/METRO WORLD NEWS

Urban vs. rural

In China, citizens are classified as urban or rural, according to their Hukou, or residential permit.

- **Double standard.** People with urban Hukou have access to state-allocated jobs while people with rural Hukou are expected to be more "self-reliant."
- **Ask the police.** Officially, Chinese people need approval from local police if they want to move out.
- **In practice.** Since China relies on cheap labour, it hardly prevents workers from travelling from their rural homes to factories.

Every last Thursday of each month, hundreds of parents gather in front of the Complaint Bureau at the Education Ministry in Beijing. You won't hear anyone shouting or see any placards. As usual, policemen film every protester. Eventually, they will ask everybody to disperse.

For three years, these fathers and mothers have been asking in vain to meet high-ranking officials. Like seven million people in Beijing, a third of the capital's population, they are all migrant workers who moved to the capital to work and raise a family. Treated like outsiders, their kids can't go to local school, nor can they attend exams in the city.

This is the main discrimination caused by the Hukou system in China, a centuries-old system of household registration.

"Now we have 11,000 signatures, plus 87,000 people who joined our online group anonymously," says Madam Yang from north China's Shanxi province, who works as a maid for a wealthy Beijing family. "With my husband, we have been working hard to buy a small flat. We're proud to pay our taxes here, but we still feel like second-class citizens. Our child can't enjoy basic public services like school."

The Yangs also don't have health or unemployment benefits.

Last month, China introduced a law to ban Hukou restrictions in mid-size cities, but not in major cities like Beijing or Shanghai.

Without legal access to city schools, where do these migrant kids end up?

"A donation can change many things," says a mother of twins, from Sichuan province, who wished to remain anonymous. "After negotiating, the principal asked me to make a donation, plus the tuition fees. He said the school will buy three TV sets with my money."

She gave 20,000 yuans ($3,100) or seven months' salary. Parents who can't pay a lot and don't send their kids back to their hometown have no choice but to rely on shabby, poorly subsidized migrant schools, places that offer low education with poor facilities. Last year, 23 of them in Beijing were shut down for "safety reasons."

Eventually, kids of migrant parents will face one more struggle before university: the Gaokao, a higher-education entrance exam. It is not unusual for rural high school teenagers to study seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Should your employer be your 'friend'?

Robert Collins of Baltimore was asked for his Facebook login and password during an interview for a job as a security guard.
STEVE RUARK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Social media. Some companies and government agencies are asking job applicants for access to their Facebook account

In their efforts to vet job applicants, some companies and U.S. government agencies are going beyond merely glancing at a person's social-networking profiles and instead are asking to log in as the user to have a look around.

Questions have been raised about the legality of the practice, which is the focus of proposed legislation in Illinois and Maryland that would forbid public agencies from asking for access to social networks.

Since the rise of social networking, it has become common for managers to review publicly available Facebook profiles, Twitter accounts and other sites to learn more about job candidates. But many users, especially on Facebook, have their profiles set to private, making them available only to selected people or certain networks.

Companies that don't ask for passwords have taken other steps — such as asking applicants to friend human-resource managers or to log in to a company computer during an interview.

Asking for a candidate's password is more prevalent among public agencies, especially those seeking to fill law-enforcement positions such as police officers.

Back in 2010, Robert Collins was returning to his job as a security guard at the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services after taking a leave following his mother's death. During a reinstatement interview, he was asked for his login and password, purportedly so the agency could check for any gang affiliations. He was stunned by the request but complied.

"I needed my job to feed my family. I had to," he recalled.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Privacy concerns

"It's akin to requiring someone's house keys.... (It's) an egregious privacy violation."

Orin Kerr, law professor
George Washington University

South sends clear message for Kim Jong-un and neighbours in North

An effigy of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un is put on a mock North Korean missile during an anti-North Korea rally in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, over the North's plan to launch a long-range rocket. North Korea vowed Sunday to go ahead with its plans, rejecting criticism in the West that doing so would scuttle recent diplomacy. LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

101 years. Paraglider jumps into record books

A 101-year-old U.S. woman who ushered in her birthday with a tandem paraglide ride last year was soaring into the record books Tuesday.

Great-great-grandmother Mary Hardison of Ogden, Utah, has been officially recognized as the "Oldest Female to Paraglide Tandem" by Guinness World Records. She supplanted a 100-year-old woman from Cyprus who took her flight in 2007.

Hardison flew with an instructor on Sept. 1, 2011, while four generations of her family watched and cheered.

Mary Hardison says she was "just going on a little ride."
JEREMY CASTELLANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The flight went smoothly and even included a few tricks that Hardison encouraged.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London riots. Harry Potter actor gets two years in jail

A judge has sent a cast member of the Harry Potter films to prison for taking part in rioting that flared across England last summer.

Judge Simon Carr sentenced Jamie Waylett, 22, who played Hogwarts bully Vincent Crabbe in six of the films, to two years in jail. Prosecutors said Waylett was part of a small gang that took part in the riots in north London on Aug. 8.

A jury at London's Wood Green Crown Court found Waylett guilty Tuesday of violent disorder, but acquitted him of another charge of intending to destroy or damage property.

Jamie Waylett at a Harry Potter film premiere in 2005.
PETER KRAMER/GETTY IMAGES

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Earhart. Lost aviator was an inspiration: Clinton

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had encouraging words Tuesday for a new investigation into one of the 20th century's most enduring mysteries: The fate of American aviator Amelia Earhart, who went missing without a trace over the South Pacific 75 years ago.

Clinton and Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood gave their support and encouragement on Tuesday to historians, scientists and salvagers from The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery, which is launching a new search for the wreckage of Earhart's Lockheed Electra plane.

Earhart was an inspiration to Americans in difficult times as the nation struggled to emerge from the Great Depression of the 1930s, Clinton said, adding that her legacy can serve as a model for the country now.

"We can be as optimistic and even audacious as Amelia Earhart," she said. "We can be defined not by the limits that hold us down but by the opportunities that are ahead."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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4841 Delta St
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19638 Fraser Hwy
19700 Langley Bypass
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20159 88th Ave
20202 66th Ave

Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge
22661 Lougheed Hwy

Mission
Junction shopping Centre
32670 Lougheed Hwy

N. Vancouver
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Royal City Centre

North Vancouver
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1199 Lynn Valley Road
1295 Marine Dr
1801 Lonsdale Ave

Pitt Meadows
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Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.83¢ US
(-0.44¢)

TSX
12,430.7 (-48.99)

OIL
$105.61 US (-$2.48)

GOLD
$1,647 US (-$20.30)

Natural gas: $ 2.335 US (-1.6¢)
Dow Jones: 13,170.19 (-68.94)

Stock savvy

Apple puts modern spin on the dividend

Apple made computers sexy. Can it do the same for the musty old dividend?

The quarterly cheque used to be associated with staid utilities rather than sleek tech companies.

"It wasn't sexy," says John Buckingham, chief investment officer at Al Frank Asset Management. "Now the cool guy is doing it."

Apple said Monday that it would begin paying a quarterly dividend of $2.65 per share starting this summer after years of resisting the idea.

But the hoard of cash and securities grew so large — $97.6 billion, more than the entire market value of all but 15 companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 — that Apple had no use for it. So the company reversed its policy, also announcing that it planned to buy back $10 billion worth of its stock in the next fiscal year, which begins in October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Occupational safety

Walmart guilty in workplace death

A Walmart says it has pleaded guilty to three workplace safety charges in the death of a teenage worker in New Brunswick last year.

The retail giant was charged under the Occupational Health and Safety Act after a 17-year-old employee at a store in Grand Falls was electrocuted on Jan. 5, 2011.

Patrick Desjardins was using a floor buffer on a wet floor in a garage at the time.

WorkSafeNB, the Crown agency responsible for the act, has said Desjardins was using an inappropriate floor polisher and a faulty extension cord when he died.

The agency issued several orders against Walmart after the death and it says the company has complied with those orders. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Israeli law bans too-thin models

Image issue. Groundbreaking legislation aims to encourage realistic portrayals in local advertising

A man walks past an ad in Tel Aviv. Israel passed a new law this week banning underweight models in advertising. ODED BALILTY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Told she was too fat to be a model, Danielle Segal shed a quarter of her original 116-pound weight and was hospitalized twice for malnutrition. The girl weighed 88 pounds by then, or about as much as a robust preteen, and her health suffered.

Now that a new Israeli law prohibits the employment of underweight models, the 19-year-old must gain some of it back if she wants to work again.

The legislation passed Monday aims to put a stop to the extremes, and by extension ease the pressure on youngsters to emulate the skin-and-bones models, often resulting in dangerous eating disorders.

The new law poses a groundbreaking challenge to a fashion industry widely castigated for promoting anorexia and bulimia. Its sponsors say it could become an example for other countries grappling with the spread of the life-threatening disorders.

It's especially important in Israel, which is particularly obsessed by models, whose every utterance and dalliance is fodder for large pictures and racy stories in the nation's newspapers.

The law requires models to produce a medical report no more than three months old at every shoot for the Israeli market, stating that they are not malnourished, according to World Health Organization standards.

Also, any advertisement published for the Israeli market must have a clearly written notice disclosing if its models were made to look thinner by digital manipulation.

In Israel, about two per cent of girls between 14 and 18 have severe eating disorders, a rate similar to other developed countries, experts said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Closure. 2,600 out of work in Aveos shutdown

Aveos Fleet Performance is liquidating its Canadian aircraft maintenance business, putting virtually all of the company's 2,600 employees across the country out of work.

The Montreal-based private company said Tuesday that it would immediately cease all operations after getting permission for the move in Quebec Superior Court.

The company let go its remaining 1,300 employees after 1,175 workers were put out of a job on Sunday when Aveos decided to close its airframe repair business.

The Quebec government says its Justice Department lawyers are assessing the grounds for a lawsuit aimed at forcing the airline to continue using Aveos. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour laws. Air Canada unions challenge stay-at-work legislation

Two of Air Canada's largest employee groups are launching constitutional challenges against federal back-to-work legislation that prevents a strike or lockout at the country's largest carrier.

The union representing pilots said Tuesday that it filed a suit in Ontario Superior Court, while the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers added it will soon pursue its own effort.

Both groups, which together represent more than 11,000 airline employees, are the last group of workers without updated collective agreements.

The pilots said the law passed last week forces them to fly and accept a contract imposed by arbitration in contravention of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

"The legislation was draconian overkill," Capt. Paul Strachan, president of the Air Canada Pilots Associations, said in an interview.

Neither side was able to strike or lock out workers once Labour Minister Lisa Raitt referred the matter to the Canada Industrial Relations Board.

The pilots said the Protecting Air Service Act prohibits pilots from exercising their right to strike and contravenes three sections of the Charter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Secret report

- The Department of Human Resources and Skills Development advised the governing Conservatives in a secret report to use back-to-work legislation only sparingly after Air Canada's customer-service and sales staff walked out last June.
- In the July 21 report obtained by the Canadian Press, senior officials urged the Tories to save the law for emergencies.
- The bureaucrats were not convinced the walkout constituted anything more than a nuisance to air travellers.

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SCARY LIT RAISES SPECTRE OF GORE-STOKED GENERATION

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Now that my own children are grown and there's nothing I can do about them, it's time to start worrying about the next generation.

After all, they're the ones who are going to find me in my single room buried under mouldy Starbucks venti lattes and ship me off to the state geezer preserve.

And if what they're up to right now is any indication, I have no reason to expect compassion.

I started thinking about the next generation after hearing that Judy Blume's novels are about to be turned into ebooks. And publishers are worried that today's kids, raised on a steady diet of vampires, human sacrifice and Grand Theft Auto, will find her books bland and boring.

This was once the most banned author in North America, whose most banned book (Forever) opened with the following line: "Sybil Davison has a genius I.Q. and has been laid by at least six different guys."

That got you banned in 1975, but these days it's so tame that even the censors can't work up enough jam to read it, even if they can download it instantly.

'Blood and sacrifice'

"These days, you have to add blood and sacrifice for kids to stop sexting and virtually stoning each other on Am I Ugly and read instead."

These days, you have to add blood and sacrifice for kids to stop sexting and virtually stoning each other on Am I Ugly and read instead. The average teenager sends 60 text messages a day and spends more than seven hours a day "using" media, 80 per cent of it social media.

When Judy Blume was freaking out parents and librarians, there was no Internet. You had to look into a mirror to find out if you were ugly. Now you post a photo on the Internet and let the world have its way with you.

So what are we raising? Pretty little bloodthirsty, depraved, techno-robotic, Borg-minded, crypto-fascist, superstitious sociopaths? Maybe.

At least they can help you unlock your cellphone.

When my kids were young, the biggest threat to their mental health was V.C. Andrews, who dealt in incest and various forms of abuse. Plus, she was a terrible writer. By comparison, Judy Blume was Shakespeare. Of course, nobody reads him anymore either, not as long as we have Suzanne Collins (The Hunger Games) or Stephanie Meyer (Twilight).

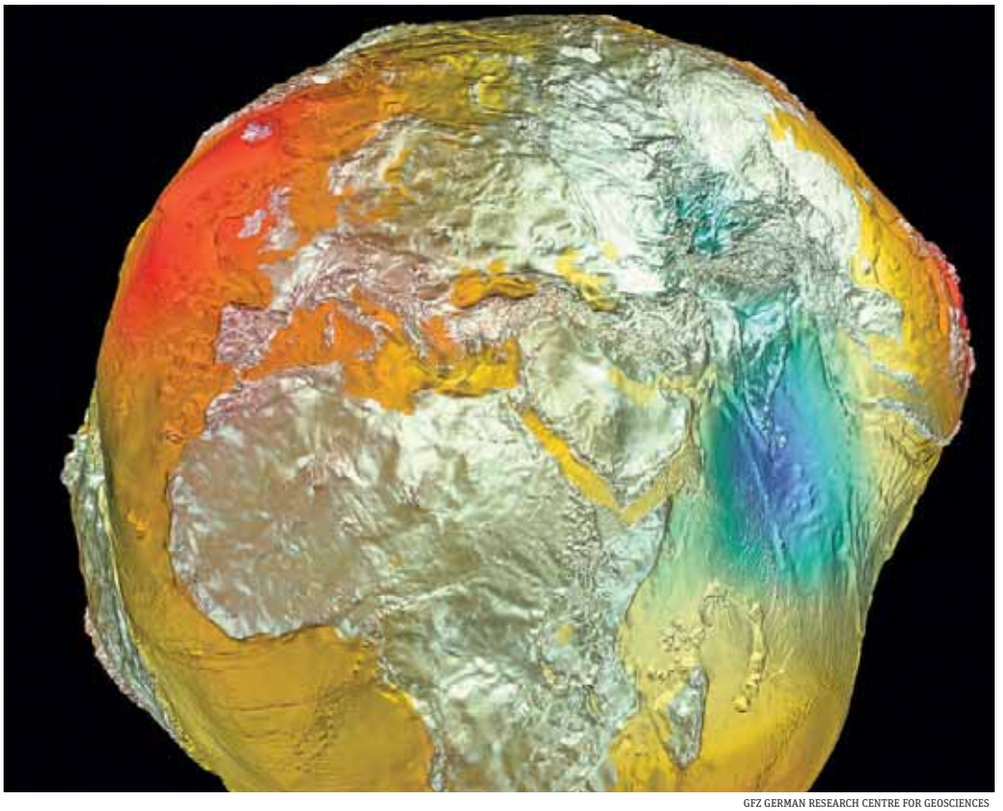
Today, "writing" is a kind of delivery mechanism, like a syringe or a hand-held rocket launcher. Ideas are no longer than 140 characters and something gets killed at the end.

For those who still remember, it's like Brave New World meets Lord of the Flies.

With zombies.

Jennifer Lawrence portrays Katniss Everdeen in a scene from The Hunger Games based on Suzanne Collins' novel. MURRAY CLOSE/LIONSGATE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Planet 'potato' down to earth



GFZ GERMAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR GEOSCIENCES

3D mapping

Map shows how Earth changes

For most of us, our planet is spherical in shape, but for some German geoscientists tracking planetary changes, it looks like a potato. Based on data from NASA satellites, the "Potsdam Gravity Potato" is 3D mapping that reveals how melting ice has changed Earth's gravity. MWN

Gravity field

"When the mass of Greenland's ice sheet changes, so does the gravity there. Gravity field measurements give us information on mass changes, including climate-related ones."

Frank Flechtner, expert from GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

Geoscience

'Potato' based on Newton's law

"This is not a gimmick," the Potsdam-based scientists say. The "Gravity Potato," first developed in 1995, is based on one of Newton's laws that states an object's gravity depends on its mass. Earth's uneven distribution of mass means varying gravitational pull on the surface. MWN

This year's 'potato'

The bulge rises in Japan

- The bulge in Far East Asia shows the dramatic changes in solid earth as a result of Japan's earthquakes in 2011.

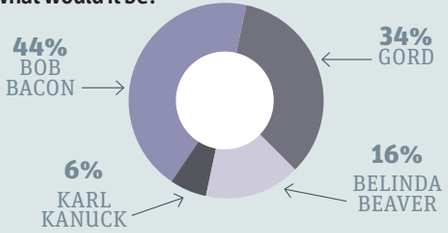
Loss of ice mass = sea rise

- Greenland's ice shield had 240 gigatons of mass loss between 2002 and 2011, corresponding to a sea level rise of 0.7 mm per year.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

If you were to get a cellphone under a fake name, what would it be?



Twitter

@MissJessicaKing
The most important thing to do in life is be yourself...unless you can be a unicorn. Always, always be a unicorn.

@Dave_Eby
Independent theatres in BC are in a crisis. Press conference with Rio,Dunbar, Hollywood, owners tomorrow (Wed) 10am at 3123 W Broadway.

@ChristieBuono
The time when you've been working with people for over 3 years and theystill spell your name wrong... #SMH

@WhatTheFFacts
About 100,000 condoms were given to Olympic athletes at the Vancouver Winter Olympics 2010, and they used them all!

@LuxurHotel
Vancouver Fashion Week has arrived: Vancouver design students from the LaSalle College fashion program will also...

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FUNDING FOR STUDENTS, NOT FOR WAGE HIKES.

The BCTF is demanding a 15 per cent wage hike and other benefits that would cost $2 billion and raise taxes for BC families. Virtually all other public sector unions have settled for no wage increases.

It's unacceptable that schools are disrupted and that students and their families are inconvenienced over an unreasonable salary demand in difficult economic times. The union is making claims and demands that simply don't add up.

BCTF CLAIMS AND DEMANDS	FACT
The union wants more paid time outside the classroom – sick leave for teachers on call, expanded bereavement and discretionary leave.	The government wants more time for teacher training and to ensure that Pro-D days really are for professional development.
The union says all teaching positions should be selected on the basis of seniority.	The government supports seniority but qualifications must also count so that math teachers teach math, and science teachers teach science.
The union says that teachers who perform poorly in evaluations will be dismissed – 'one strike and you're out'.	The government wants to support teacher improvement through a standardized evaluation process.
The union says that government refuses to negotiate.	There has been over a year of negotiations and 78 full bargaining sessions.
The union says that class size limits have been eliminated.	Class size limits will remain in place on all grades across BC.
The union says that BC has 700 fewer special needs teachers.	2100 new teaching assistants have been hired since 2001. And, with a new $165 million *Learning Improvement Fund*, we will hire more.

It's time to focus on what matters most in education – BC's students. That's why we are focused on per-student funding which is at an all time high, not on wage increases.

We all want to do more to make BC's education system even better. It's the driving force behind *BC's Education Plan* that teachers, parents and students are helping to shape.

Teachers care about their students. Parents care about their children's future.

LET'S PUT STUDENTS 1ST

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BCEDPLAN.CA

2
SCENE

Virgin space travellers

Kutcher signs up

Richard Branson says his venture to launch paying tourists into space has netted its 500th customer, and it's none other than Ashton Kutcher. Branson made the announcement on his blog Monday. He called the actor to congratulate him and said Kutcher is thrilled at the prospect of being among the first to cross "the final frontier" aboard Virgin Galactic. Virgin Galactic is in the final stages of its test flight program. The company plans to launch its spacecraft from Spaceport America, a special terminal and runway built in southern New Mexico's desert.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Kevin Costner's lawyers

tell SD high court actor did not breach contract with sculpture artist

'Not your everyday villain'

Alexander Ludwig is photographed by fans as he arrives on the red carpet for the premiere of The Hunger Games on Monday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Golden boy. New on the scene, Alexander Ludwig says fans don't mind he plays a trained killer in The Hunger Games

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

At six-feet, two-inches with all-American good looks (even though he was born in Vancouver), Alexander Ludwig doesn't look like a super villain. But to fans of The Hunger Games he is the baddest baddie of them all, Cato, the brute from District 2.

"He was born and raised a killer and that's all he knew how to do," says the 20-year-old actor.

"But he's not your everyday villain. There's a lot more substance and depth to this guy. You can tell he's had a tortured life."

Trained as a killer, Cato has spent his whole life preparing for his turn in The Hunger Games, a kind of murderous reality show.

"I'm playing the most feared guy in the arena so I didn't know how I was going to be received by everyone else in the cast," he says of his co-stars Jennifer Lawrence and Josh Hutcherson. "I was cautious about it, but everyone was amazing."

One thing is for sure; he made an impression on one stunt man.

"I hit a stunt guy across the face with the butt end of a rubber bat when I was filming," he says, "but once you do that you have keep going because they're going to kick your ass if you don't. 'What are you doing? That was the perfect sell because you actually hit me.' I felt so bad."

He says that despite the movie's dark subject matter and the odd bruised stunt man, the mood on set was light.

"It is important to have contrast when the material is so dark. There's all this tense energy and right after they yell, 'Cut' you can breathe."

He's also breathing a little easier now the movie is done and fans have embraced him.

"I have been so, so happy about the way I have been received because it could go either way," he says.

"Everyone's been very excited to see me and meet me. No one has said, 'Screw you, Cato!' I hope it stays like this. Everyone likes being liked and I chose this role knowing that it could go the other way."

"I'm just riding this crazy experience. You really can't think about it because you don't know what to expect. Every day is a new experience.

I walked out of my hotel room this morning and there were fans outside. I can't believe this is happening to me. It's wild."

If looks could kill

"Everyone's been very excited to see me and meet me. No one has said, 'Screw you, Cato!' I hope it stays like this. Everyone likes being liked and I chose this role knowing that it could go the other way."

Actor Alexander Ludwig,
on playing the evil Cato in The Hunger Games.

When it's 'every man for himself'

Hungry for blood. Why do we love movies about people forced to hunt and kill each other?

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

If you've read The Hunger Games novels, you're likely excited about the big screen adaptation hitting theatres this Friday. The story of a dystopian world where children killing children is a national pastime — think American Idol, only with knives — was a mega-hit in book stores and promises to pack theatres.

But if the movie lineups are enough to keep you away from the theatre on Saturday night, here are some similar themed movies to get you in the mood.

Battle Royale is the ultra-violent Japanese cousin to The Hunger Games. The movie is a futuristic nightmare about a group of kids who are shipped off to a remote island and forced to wage war against one another until only one remains.

The film's bloody conflict enraged the Japanese censors who tried to ban the movie, but their plan backfired. Slapping a tough R15 rating on the film only increased people's desire to see it. "Because it was forbidden," says director Kinji Fukasaku, "they wanted to watch it even more."

Also breathing the same air is Series 7: The Contenders, a parody of reality television where contestants hunt down and murder one another. This gory satire won a passing grade from Roger Ebert who said, "It's not the idea that people will kill each other for entertainment that makes Series 7 jolting. What the movie correctly perceives is that somewhere along the line we've lost all sense of shame in our society."

The idea of televising human blood sports isn't new to the reality TV era, however. Years before Survivor made the phrase, "You've been voted off the island" a household term, Steven King and Arnold Schwarzenegger unleashed The Running Man on audiences.

Arnold plays a wrongly convicted man fighting for his survival on a TV game show, overseen by Family Feud host Richard Dawson.

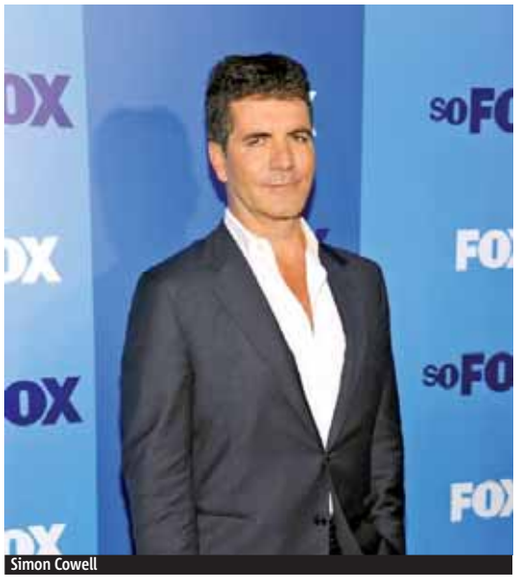
"I'll be back!" Arnold says, mimicking his Terminator catchphrase. "Only in a rerun," says Dawson, who hopes Arnold bites it and gives the show a spike in ratings.

Finally, director Norman Jewison imagined a theme similar to The Hunger Games in his 1975 film Rollerball. Set in 2018, it's about a deadly sport that combines roller derby, hockey, football and a generous helping of violence. The movie's style seems a bit dated but the ideas aren't. Jewisons' prophetic take on violence, the influence of corporations and the state of entertainment are bang on.

Elizabeth Banks, left, and Jennifer Lawrence star in The Hunger Games. HANDOUT

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Simon Cowell

Cowell considering killing off X Factor if ratings continue to dip

Despite all the rumors about negotiating with Britney Spears to come on board as a judge, Simon Cowell may have altogether different plans for the U.S. edition of the X Factor — and they involve cancelling the show altogether.

"I'd rather fall off the cliff on numbers than deteriorate slowly," Cowell said at a press conference for the launch of another season of Britain's Got Talent.

"We have something in development, which could replace The X Factor."

Quote

"I'd rather fall off the cliff on numbers than deteriorate slowly."

Simon Cowell
speaking about X-Factor's ratings.

Lindsay Lohan

Lindsay Lohan putting herself on house arrest to avoid new problems

Lindsay Lohan is taking the "better safe than sorry" approach and is reportedly putting herself under house arrest for the remainder of her probation, according to TMZ.

It's not a terribly long self-imposed sentence, though, as Lohan's probation is set to end March 29, but sources tell the website that the troubled actress is planning to only leave her house to go to her community service assignment at the morgue.

The Word

Is Kim Zolciak jacking Jessica Simpson's swagger?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Kim Zolciak must be getting tired of Jessica Simpson stealing the blond-weave-wearing-pregnant-lady spotlight, as it was announced yesterday that she and husband Kroy Biermann, 26, are wasting no time expanding their family. After giving birth to their son, Kroy Jagger (KJ) Jr., last May, Life & Style is exclusively reporting that the couple is expecting their second baby.

"Kroy and I are so excited," Kim, 33, tells the magazine. "To decide we wanted to get pregnant again and have it happen so quickly was such a blessing."

I'd go all conspiracy theorist on you and say Kim and Kroy (ed note: What the hell kind of name is "Kroy"? Is that a mash-up of "Kyle" and "Troy"?) are just now revealing this news to bring attention to the TV special about their lavish November wedding, Don't Be Tardy for the Wedding, which premieres on April 26 at 9 p.m. on Bravo.

But, come on: anyone who films their wedding for reality TV and then calls it Don't Be Tardy for the Wedding will of course try to capitalize off of a pregnancy.

There's no conspiracy about it.

Goldie Hawn

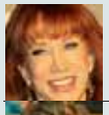
Goldie Hawn denies saying Hudson married rock star boyfriend

Goldie Hawn set off a rash of speculation that daughter Kate Hudson had already secretly wed fiancé Matt Bellamy when she told ES magazine,

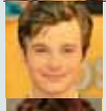
"When my daughter Kate married an English rock star it didn't worry me."

But Hawn doesn't stand by the quote. When a Twitter follower asked her, "So are Kate and Matt really married, or are the press twisting your words?" Hawn responded, "Darling, once again twisted the words. They aren't married."

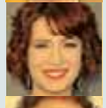
Twitter



@kathygriffin
Larry the dog got out & was missing ALL DAY! Got a call & WHO rescued him? @KalPenn! #Random #grateful



@chriscolfer
My goldfish have love handles. I may be over feeding them...



@diablocody
Currently watching a dad TIE his daughter to a piece of playground equipment so she can't fall off. He's using police tape, which makes it extra weird.

@AlbertBrooks
If it walks like a duck, looks like a duck, quacks like a duck, it still could be a chicken doing impressions.

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Exhibit helps MythBusters take their show on the road

Museum. Discovery Channel program creates a science-based exhibit at a museum in Chicago, with plans to tour the showcase

If you go...

- **Mythbusters.** Through Sept. 3 at Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, Chicago; msichicago.org or 773-684-1414. Open daily 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Timed ticketing; adults, $25, children 3-11, $18 (general admission plus $10).

Who gets wetter, someone walking in the rain or running? Is it really possible to hang from a cliff by your fingers until help arrives like they do in the movies? And is Superman the only one who is faster than a speeding bullet?

Those are questions the Discovery Channel's MythBusters has asked for years, and starting last week, anybody who's wondered how long it takes to put on a superhero outfit in a phone booth — don't forget the cape — can answer them for themselves at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry.

MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition, opened March 15, marking the first time the show has taken such questions on the road. The Chicago exhibition, which runs through Sept. 3, is the first of a planned national tour that will include stops at several other U.S. cities.

"This has both the science and also a sense of humour, what we've been doing for a decade," Adam Savage, one of the show's hosts, said this week before the exhibition opened.

Just like on the show, the exhibit is a kind of scientific bait and switch. It starts with something visitors have seen in the movies or on TV or that they can recall from their own experiences.

"That's the hook," said Jamie Hyneman, also a MythBusters co-host. "That gets them involved and before they know what happens they've actually learned something or been lured into thinking carefully about what's going on."

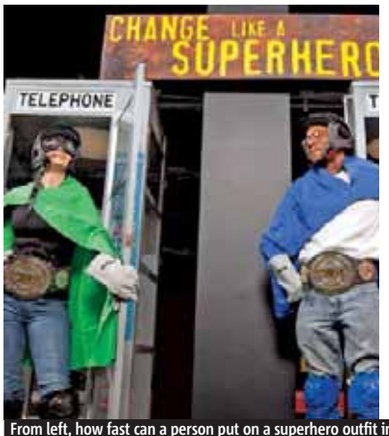
The exhibit consists of about a dozen stations mixed in with props familiar to viewers, like the actual casket Hyneman lay in for a segment on being buried alive. In one station shaped like a ship cargo container, a visitor walks and another runs while water drips from hoses above. Once they're wet, they go around the corner and, because the water contains traces of fluorescent dye, they can see just how many drops hit them as they stand in front of a black light.

After determining which one of them is wetter, the participants press either the run or walk button. The results will be stored for now and revealed when the show leaves in September.

There is another exhibit for anyone who's wondered if a blind Al Pacino really could have navigated a car through the streets of New York in Scent of a Woman based on the directions given by a terrified Chris O'Donnell from the passenger seat. With the help of video-arcade style equipment, visitors can see if they do as well as Pacino or better than Hyneman and Savage did on the show.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jamie Hyneman, left, and Adam Savage, stars of Mythbusters, stand outside the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. J.B. SPECTOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



From left, how fast can a person put on a superhero outfit in a phone booth? The Mythbusters open the exhibit in Chicago last week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 LIFE

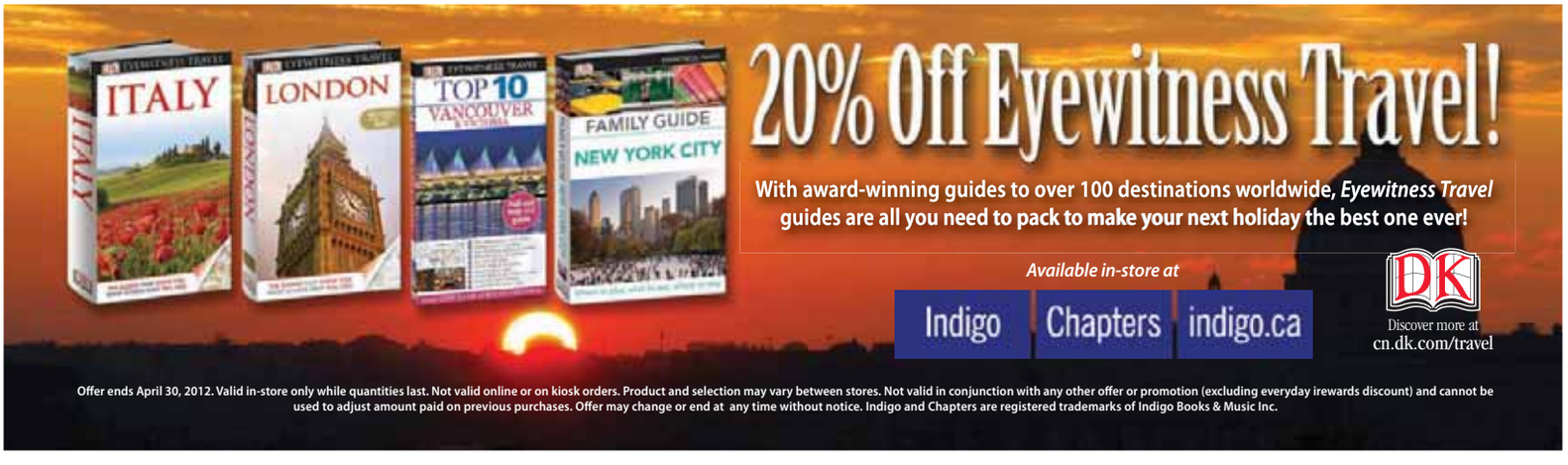
Travel in brief

No free music at festival

After three years of financial losses, the showcase summer festival Taste of Chicago will start charging music fans if they want concert seats. Taste of Chicago performances at the 3,000-seat Petrillo Music Shell in Grant Park had been free, but the city wants to charge $25 a ticket this year, Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Edgar Degas' Impressionism stripped bare in Paris: forget dancers, this time its nudes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Eastern Quebec has plenty for the flower lover

Eastern Townships. La Belle Province is dotted with quaint towns and villages, perfect for a laid-back holiday

MEL BORINS
Metro World News

What does lavender, rosehips, luxury trains, gourmet cuisine and fabulous country inns have in common? Who would have guessed the Eastern Townships of Quebec? I have fond memories of downhill skiing at Owl's Head and often wondered what it would be like to visit this region outside of winter months.

The Eastern Townships are made up of a number of towns and villages to the South East of Montreal. I boarded a VIA Rail train at Union Station and enjoyed the relaxing five-hour ride from Toronto to Montreal.

About 50 minutes east of Montreal is the charming Victorian village of Knowlton, famous for its Loyalist roots and heritage buildings. We stayed our first night close to Knowlton at a four-star inn Auberge Quilliams. The Inn has great canoeing and kayaking through the reserve close by. The beach across the road in front of Lac Brome was a quiet place to unwind.

Close to Auberge Quilliams we visited two tourist sights that were inspiring: Rose des Champs and Bleu Lavande. We also spent an evening on the Orford Express Train belonging to the conductor and priest Father Donald Thompson. The Orford Express has three restaurant cars seating up to 212 diners who travel through the landscapes that link Sherbrooke, Magog and Eastman.

It's not all roses at Rose des Champs.

The beach of Lac Brome offers some spectacular wildlife watching. PHOTOS: MEL BORINS/METRO

Flowers

Everything is rosy

One day, Norman Benoit decided that growing roses and converting the petals into rose products would be an interesting and feasible alternative to traditional farming. So he transformed the farm that had been in his family for four generations and together with his sweetheart Claire Mercier started growing roses. With the philosophy "to do good" they developed a unique four acre private rose garden called Rose des Champs, where they grow some 2000 rose bushes and 800 varieties of roses.

Conductor Father Donald Thompson.

Relaxation

Lavender fields

I adore the smell of lavender and just a few minutes south of the quaint town of Magog, there is Bleu Lavande, the dream child of Pierre Pellerin. Pierre had a successful electronics business but at the age of 42 fell sick with a neurological disease that seemed to be stress related. He sold his business and bought the 160 acre property and along with his wife Christine began planting lavender, and the rest is another dream come true. I loved walking through the stunning fields of flowering plants.

A foot massage with lavender oil out in the middle of the lavender field was delightfully relaxing.

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The bite-sized San Francisco

Food trucks are a big deal in San Francisco, so we got Kate McEachern, founder of local cupcake truck Cupkates, to talk us through her city's hot spots

METRO WORLD NEWS

First time?

For those that usually ignore the clichéd recommendations in travel guides, play the tourist for once. San Francisco has some amazing attractions and you don't want to miss them. Your first stop should be Fort Point. Its vantage point overlooking Golden Gate Bridge offers amazing views.

Been there before?

Once you've seen all of the staple tourist spots, I'd recommend a trip to Golden Gate Park (golden-gate-park.com). Go for tea at the Japanese Tea House and Garden or simply walk around the gardens. The California Academy of Sciences (calacademy.org), one of the world's largest natural history museums, is a fun daytime outing whether you're with family or friends. I always head straight to the living roof. Designed by architect Renzo Piano, the roof consists of undulating green hillocks and 1.7 million native plants, mimicking the city's topography.

Go out

If you want a chilled but fun Friday night out then head over to the De Young Museum (deyoung.famsf.org). It stays open late, keeping people entertained with the bar and live music. Bubble Lounge champagne bar (bubblelounge.com) is perfect for a girls' night out. Although, by no means does this mean boys aren't allowed to join the party.

Stay in

For those on a budget, Hotel des Arts, located in the French Quarter, is an eclectic boutique close to Union Square, perfect if you had a day of shopping planned (sfhotel-desarts.com). If you have a bit more to spend, in the mid-range price is Hotel Del Sol. This is a joyful-kid friendly place to stay.

Eat

Some of the city's best food comes from a truck. Off the Grid (offthegridsf.com) is a bustling roving market with gourmet food trucks selling anything from my cupcakes to 'eat curbside's' deep fried Mac n Cheese.

On Friday nights, the Fort Mason market has a bar and music, making it a really great (and super cheap!) way to spend the evening. Nick's Crispy Tacos (at 1500 Broadway) makes the most amazing fried fish pescado tacos (ask for them made "Nick's Way") and carnitas (braised pork) in town.

If you're craving pizza, there's no other place than Una Pizza Napoletana (unapizza.com/sf). The place is small and the owner Anthony Mangieri makes pizza to order using an oven placed in the middle of the dining room.

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A woman looks out the window of the Titanic drawing offices in Belfast. PHOTOS PETER MORRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A replica of the famous Titanic staircase is on display at the visitor centre.

A recreation of a first-class cabin at the visitor centre.

Belfast boasts its links to the Titanic with new visitor centre

History. The capital of Northern Ireland kept quiet about manufacturing the ship after it sank, but now it beckons visitors

To most of the world, the name Titanic means tragedy, spiced with romance, sacrifice and luxury. But in Belfast, where it was built, the doomed ship is a triumph of industry, enterprise and engineering.

The city hopes the rest of the world will soon see it that way, too.

Northern Ireland's capital, scarred by 30 years of Catholic-Protestant violence and mired in Europe's economic doldrums, is gambling on a gleaming new Titanic tourist attraction to bring it fame beyond the Troubles — and a renewed sense of civic pride. Tying the city's name to a sinking ship is not, apparently, a problem.

"What happened to the Titanic was a disaster," said Tim Husbands, chief executive of Titanic Belfast, a $160-million-visitor attraction due to open March 31, in advance of the 100th anniversary of the ship's sinking. "But the ship wasn't."

Colin Cobb, a Titanic expert who leads walking tours of the docks and slipways where the great ship was built a century ago, puts it even more succinctly: "Tragedy plus time equals tourism."

Celebrating the ship and its builders is the aim of Titanic Belfast, a shiny new "visitor experience" whose four prow-like wings jut jauntily skyward beside the River Lagan on the site of the former Harland and Wolff shipyard.

Titanic, then the world's largest, most luxurious ocean liner, left this spot on April 2, 1912, eight days before its maiden voyage from England to New York. The vessel touted as "practically unsinkable" hit an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and sank in the early hours of April 15, 1912. More than 1,500 of the 2,200 people on board died. Belfast mourned — and then, for decades, kept quiet about its link to the tragedy.

"When she sank, it was a huge shock for the city," said Susie Millar, whose great-grandfather Thomas Millar was a deck engineer who perished aboard the Titanic. "For years and years it wasn't discussed. But now, coming up to the 100th anniversary, we've rediscovered that pride in the ship."

But few know of the ship's Belfast origins. "I wish the movie had mentioned Belfast just once," said Titanic Belfast marketing manager Claire Bradshaw. "It would make my job a lot easier."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exhibit

Setting the record straight

The new exhibit aims to correct the record, telling the story of Belfast's time as an industrial powerhouse, and the thousands of men who worked for three years to build Titanic and its sister vessels, Olympic and Britannic. It features 3D projections and sleek audiovisual displays, as well as a roller coaster-style indoor ride that swoops visitors around the hull and through the rudder of a replica ship amid the glow of molten rivets and the clang of metal on metal.

It has enough details to satisfy Titanic aficionados, as well as human drama. The stories of several of the ship's builders, passengers and crew are followed through the displays to their often tragic conclusions. There's also a marine exploration centre linked to the work of Robert Ballard, who discovered the wreck of the Titanic in the Atlantic in 1985.

Kick back in Reykjavik

Iceland. Snow and ice might come to mind when thinking of the capital of this Nordic island, but there's plenty more than that

Designer duo and couple Magni Thorsteinsson and Hugrun Arnadottir own Reykjavik's coolest fashion concept store Kronkron. They allow us to experience their "small" city in a big way with a tour of the best places in the city to eat, shop, stay and go out.

According to the couple: Reykjavik is small but as we all know, size doesn't matter. The vibe here is so energetic, everyone is so bubbly. Visitors who have come on holiday to relax will love our outdoor geothermic pools. They are open all year round, whether it's a freezing minus 10 or balmy 15 degrees Celsius. After relaxing in one of those geothermic pools, you might want to have a sumptuous meal or take a nap in a comfortable room. Luckily, Reykjavik offers great choices for both options.

METRO

Eat

Surf and turf

Try Grillmarkadurinn (grillmarkadurinn.is). While the ambitious fusion menu focuses on meat, there are plenty of other options. Order the Big Steak and crispy potatoes. Or head to Sjavargrillid (sjavargrillid.is). As the sister restaurant to Grill Markadurinn, the specialty here is fish. The best item on the menu is the three course lobster feast.

A dish at Sjavargrillid. METRO WORLD NEWS

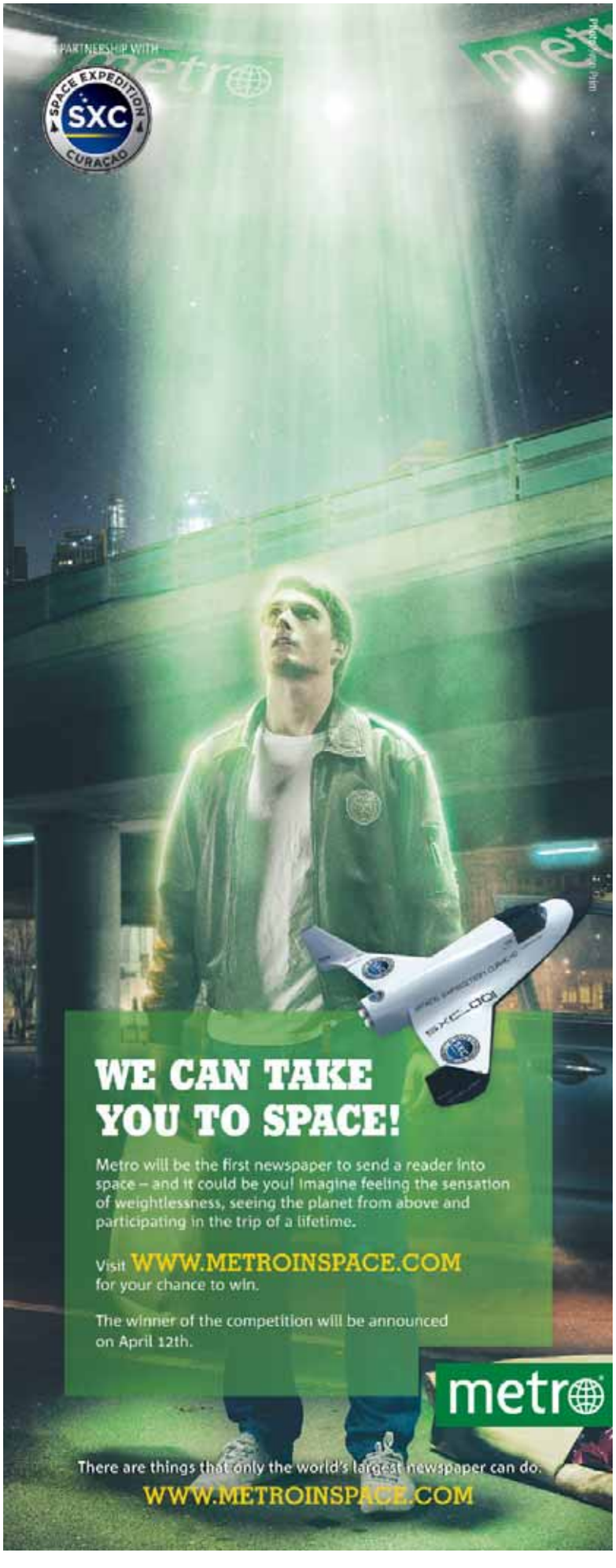
Shopping

Shoe fetish?

The best area to shop is Hljomskalagardur. If you're a shoe addict, go to Kron (kronkron.com), whose selection is amazing. If you want to spoil yourself go to the concept store Kronkron (kronbykronkron.com) where you'll find a selection of brands including Vivienne Westwood, Sonia Rykiel, Marc by Marc Jacobs and Acne.

Enter shoe heaven in Kronkron. METRO WORLD NEWS

Magni and Hugrun in their store Kronkron. METRO WORLD NEWS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Start spring off on a sweet note with treats for the big & little kids

Chocolate Mango Mousse. This easy, do-ahead dessert is a great way to incorporate chocolate without over indulging

Because this is a chilled dessert, you can make it ahead of time and not worry about things coming out of the oven at the right time when you're busy trying to impress those picky dinner guests.

To make it into a restaurant-worthy dish, spoon the Chocolate Mango Mousse into parfait glasses and top with fresh berries.

The combination of chocolate and fruit creates an ideal balance for those who want a more grown-up dessert.

Ingredients

4 portions
Start to finish: 30 minutes, plus chilling

- 250 ml (1 cup) frozen mango chunks, thawed
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) homogenized milk
- 1 whole egg, plus 1 yolk
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) cornstarch
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) milk chocolate bits
- 250 ml (1 cup) heavy cream

1 Fill a medium bowl with ice.

2 In a blender, combine the thawed mango chunks, sugar, milk, whole egg and yolk, and cornstarch. Purée until completely it is smooth.

3 Pour the mixture into a small saucepan over medium heat. Whisking constantly, heat the mixture until it thickens and comes to a boil. Remove from heat and add the milk chocolate bits. Stir until the chocolate is melted and thoroughly incorporated.

4 Place the saucepan in a bowl of ice; ensure that none of the ice gets into the saucepan. Whisk the mixture until it is completely cooled and smooth.

5 In a large bowl, place the heavy cream. Use an electric mixer to beat it until medium peaks form, 3 to 5 minutes.

6 Add half of the beaten cream to the milk chocolate-mango mixture and fold together to incorporate. Add remaining cream and fold again to incorporate.

7 Transfer the Chocolate Mango Mousse to 4 individual serving dishes and refrigerate until you are ready to serve it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chocolate Mango Mousse

The chocolate flavours aren't overpowering. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Chocolate Seduction

Chocolate and vodka combine to make a romantic cocktail that is pure magic.

Seduce your lover or your favourite foodie with this special drink.

1 Combine vodka, coffee, nut and chocolate liqueurs in a shaker with ice. Shake and strain into two cocktail glasses. Top with chocolate. Makes 2 servings.

- 2 oz vodka
- 1 oz coffee liqueur
- 1 oz nut liqueur (such as Frangelico or Amaretto)
- 1 oz chocolate liqueur
- Grated bittersweet chocolate

RECIPE AND PHOTO: ICEBERG VODKA

Caramelized apples star in frozen dessert

This recipe serves eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Bring out the kid in all of us and enjoy a sundae with family and friends. This easy make-ahead caramel apple sundae is perfect to end your next meal.

A creamy-sweet combination of caramelized apples and vanilla frozen yogurt topped with crunchy granola offers the perfect combination of ingredients.

Top this frozen treat with fresh whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon for a truly decadent dessert.

1 In a large bowl, toss apples with lemon juice; set aside.

2 In a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat, melt butter. Add sugar and stir until it has completely dissolved and is dark amber in colour. Add apples with their juices and reduce heat to low.

3 Cook, stirring often, about 10 minutes or until apples are softened. Stir in cream and vanilla; transfer to a large bowl. Let cool, cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour or until chilled and thickened. (Keep it refrigerated for up to 2 days.)

4 To assemble: For each serving, place 2 caramelized apples wedges in a sundae glass. Top with a scoop of frozen yogurt, 2 caramelized apple wedges and some granola. Repeat frozen yogurt, apple and granola layers.

5 Top with additional whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon, if desired. ONTARIO APPLE GROWERS, ONAPPLES.COM/ THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients

- 3 apples (McIntosh or Spy), peeled cored and each cut into 12 wedges
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) lemon juice
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) butter
- 500 ml (2 cups) granulate sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 35% whipping cream
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) vanilla
- 1.5 L (6 cups) vanilla frozen yogurt or vanilla ice cream
- 250 ml (1 cup) crunchy granola
- Ground cinnamon (optional)

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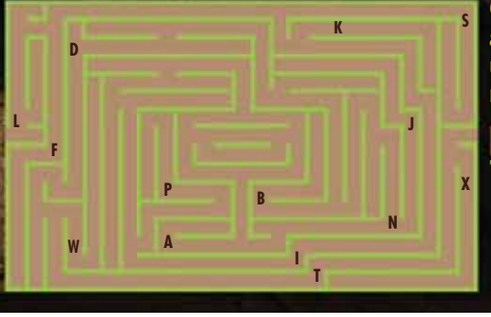

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Get up to speed on your typing skills

Helping hands.
Go from being a two-finger typist to the king or queen of your keyboard

BRUCE WALSH
Metro World News in Philadelphia

When Patrick Gray graduated from Boston College in 1999, he was determined to become a detail-oriented professional.

He started with perhaps the most overlooked detail of contemporary office culture: typing.

"It represented kind of bigger things to me. I thought, 'It's time to be a professional and learn to type for real,'" he explains. "I went cold turkey from two-finger typing. I thought, 'Even if it takes me 10 minutes on an email, I'm going to force myself to do it the right way.'"

"I think these skills are going downhill in most offices. There's less of this training at the high school and college level," says Sally Mounts, president of Auctus Consulting Group.

"It's kind of ironic, because we're all typing more than ever now, but we're less cognizant of typing skills."

It took a full month of home-row discipline for Gray — now the president of Prevoyance Group, an IT company — to get his speed back up to where it was when he started: 20 words per minute. But after six months he was sailing along at three times that rate.

"Growing up with computers, most people tend to two- or four-finger type. The hardest thing about retraining yourself is the first hour," says Mounts.

"It doesn't get worse than that. So if you can get through an hour, you're on your way."

Talk about texts

Just how long does it take you to text your buddies?

- TypingWeb Typing Tutor by FTW Innovations is a free app for the iPhone and iTouch.
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Even you may need to retrain your digits to do a better job. ISTOCK

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Nation-to-nation navigation: Interviews across the pond

East to West. Keep cultural differences in mind during a job interview abroad

LIN ABDUL RAHMAN
Talentegg.ca

Canadian employers often value confidence in a potential hire. ISTOCK

Do you remember the AT&T commercial where a man insults his Chinese business associate when he mispronounces the associate's name?

The commercial highlights the importance of clarity and precision in communication, and it also underscores the cultural nuances that we encounter at our increasingly global workplaces. These situations may seem funny in retrospect, but if they're not handled properly they may have serious consequences not only for the employee but for the company as well.

And these cultural distinctions extend far beyond the spoken language. I've had work experience in several culturally distinct countries and I can safely say the attitudes employers expect to see in a candidate also vary greatly from one country to another.

In Malaysia — a country heavily influenced by its Eastern morals and values — modesty, respect and courtesy are some of the characteristics candidates are expected to possess and display. This is not to say that employers in Western countries do not appreciate such values — quite the contrary.

However, in Malaysian culture, reverence and respect for elders, and by extension those higher up in the social hierarchy, are expected virtues in any individual. These qualities are therefore crucial in dealing with clients and associates.

As a result, candidates are expected to demonstrate these values during the interview process at great lengths, and then some.

Along the same vein, candidates are also expected to acknowledge an organization's inherent hierarchy, be it a formal or informal one. Of course, it goes without saying that falling in line is expected in any company anywhere on the globe. As the saying goes, 'You have to go along in order to get along.'

However, in Malaysia, it's crucial that a candidate displays a certain readiness, or even an eagerness, to fit into the existing pecking order. It might seem superficial or perhaps somewhat trivial, but it's crucial nonetheless as it is seen as a manifestation of the candidate's respect toward his or her superiors.

From the job interviews I've had in Australia and Canada — not all of them successful, naturally — I've found that ambition, confidence and being proactive are highly regarded by employers. These qualities are often the determining factors for whether an interview is successful or not.

Here in Canada, candidates are expected to possess high self esteem and feel confident about 'selling' themselves to employers. This is perhaps the greatest distinction between the work cultures in Canada and Malaysia.Numerous other facets of a culture come into play in determining on whether or not a candidate has had a successful interview and it is impossible to list them all.

Suffice it to say that it is good to develop a feel for the subtleties that exist within any given culture in order to gage what an employer might expect to see in a candidate.

LIN ABDUL RAHMAN IS A JOURNALISM STUDENT WITH A MINOR IN HUMAN RIGHTS AT LAURIER BRANTFORD. SHE IS ORIGINALLY FROM MALAYSIA AND NOW CALLS CANADA HOME. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Students

Population

International post-secondary students made up about 7.7% of the total student population and 6.3% of graduates in Canada in 2010. More than one third of international students attend school in Ontario.

Welcome to Canada!

The number of international post-secondary students in Canada is on the rise:

- **2004/2005.** 110,448
- **2005/2006.** 118,707
- **2006/2007.** 120,402
- **2007/2008.** 123,309
- **2008/2009.** 129,636
- **2009/2010.** 146,928

From abroad

Origins

Top 3 regions of origin of international students (2008):

- Asia: 52.7%
- Europe: 17.9%
- Africa: 11.8%

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Getting a degree, developing skills, gaining experience – no matter what school you choose, or where you come from, university is a time that allows students to get a head start on their careers.

For all students – from abroad or not – the basic techniques to achieve this are generally the same: earning good grades, gaining the most valuable career-relevant "experiences" you can, and polishing up on all those job-marketable skills. Then, to show these accomplishments off, building (and writing) an appealing resumé. It's a proven formula.

Where the extra challenge for international students comes in, however, is in learning how to adjust to the Canadian labour market. If you do it well, you can embrace and emphasize what makes you special as an international student.

It's a tricky balance, but for those students who manage to use their 'international student status' to its full potential, it can lead to substantial career benefits later on. And it's a learning process that can begin right from the start of your university experience — or, for some, even before.

Today, Enrique Chacon is an international student advisor in southwestern Ontario's University of Windsor. But 15 years ago, Chacon — a native of Colombia — was a newly arrived international student himself, intent on pursuing a master's of international and intercultural education at the University of Alberta .

Before he started classes for his degree, Chacon says he concentrated first on improving his English — something he encourages all international students to do.

"That's number one on the list — to improve your English," he says. Bilingual (and particularly multilingual) skills are extremely attractive to Canadian employers, but if you don't have sufficient working English, you simply won't be able to compete.

Besides language skills, Chacon says the only other real challenge some international students have in finding jobs is a general lack of awareness for their greater communities — even after they've already been living in Canada for a number of years.

"Some international students get so involved in their programs," Chacon explains, "that they never really get out of their dorm rooms or off campus.

It's good that they're concentrating on their studies, but [not if] they miss out on everything else. So I would say to them to 'expand your horizons. Get to know the environment — the city, as well as the campus. It will help you in the long run, when you're trying to go out and apply for jobs later on."

The value of volunteer work

In general, Enrique Chacon says many Canadian employers are eager to hire international students and/or graduates because they have a strong reputation for being hardworking, bright individuals.

- These same employers, he warns, want to see the students that understand and fit in with the Canadian culture and work environment – so the more experience you have to prove this, the better off you will be.

Student Voice

The student struggle

Ishpreet Minhas
Recent graduate - electrical engineering, Dalhousie University
talentegg.ca

I am an international student who recently graduated from Dalhousie University's electrical engineering program and I had great difficulty finding an entry-level job.

Although the job market may still be recovering from the recession, I even had difficulty finding co-op internships. Both work terms I eventually got were found by me; I didn't get any job offers through my university co-op office. When I graduated, I was a student far from home with eight months of work experience and no job prospects. I worked part-time in a job that I was over-qualified for to start paying off my student debt while I searched for meaningful full-time employment. I finally found a job as an engineer-in-training at the end of last summer.

The only explanations that I could think of were:
1. I am not a Canadian citizen
2. My grades are average (but no one asks WHY)

My recommendation for employers: don't judge students solely on their grades. An employee's worth is just as evident by their attitude and their zeal.

Break out of your typical hiring routine and try something (or someone) different!

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NFL

Manning officially signs with Broncos

The Denver Broncos introduced Peyton Manning as their new quarterback yesterday. Manning will get $18 million US guaranteed next season and could make up to $96 million over the course of the five-year deal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Ward retires, rather than seek a new team

Longtime Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward retired on Tuesday rather than trying to extend his career with another team.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hines Ward announces his retirement.
GENE J. PUSKAR/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NCAA basketball

Tar Heels ready to play without injured guard

North Carolina coach Roy Williams says his team's "preparation is 100 per cent" to play without injured point guard Kendall Marshall.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rangers-Devils brawl

"It's almost better to get it out of the way off the bat and play the game."

New York islander John Tavares on Monday's game-opening brawl between the Devils and Rangers.

Canucks' eventual rebuild might not be so painful

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Edward Fraser
vancouver@metronews.ca

Mike Gillis has done an excellent job building the Vancouver Canucks into a true Stanley Cup contender. But what about his cadre of prospects? How has the 53-year-old general manager and his staff done at procuring and developing future talent?

At first blush, not so well. According to The Hockey News' Future Watch, which grades each team's 21-and-under NHLers and lists its top 10 prospects (along with the top 75 overall), the Canucks sit 27th with a C grade — and that includes Cody Hodgson, who was 21 and still part of the organization at the time of publication.

But that evaluation doesn't tell the whole story. It's no surprise the Edmonton Oilers are No. 1 in the team rankings with an A+. After all, they've selected first, first, 10th, 22nd and sixth overall in the past five drafts. It's with that in mind that THN provides a handicapped rating that takes into account the average draft ranking (ADR) of each organization over the past half-decade.

Due to their success — and the fact they traded away a bunch of their picks in 2009-10 — the Canucks' ADR is 26th (29th, 115th, 22nd, 10th and 25th overall picks) among NHL teams. Their ADR versus overall ranking of one is 13th best league-wide, which is a much better indicator of how the team has done with the hand it was dealt. The future may not be bright, but the men who control it look to be.

As for the Canucks' individual prospects, they're already getting a steady look at two of their top five in power winger Zack Kassian, who was the Sabres' No. 1 prospect and 13th overall, and defenceman Chris Tanev, who's rated second in the Canucks' top 10.

No. 1 on the Canucks' list is the very projectable Nicklas Jensen, a six-foot-three, 187-pound Dane who scores more than a point-per-game and sits third on the Oshawa Generals in scoring in his second season in the Ontario Hockey League. He was also one of the few positives on a winless Danish squad at the world junior championship, where he led the team with five points in six games.

It'll be a few years yet before Jensen is NHL-ready. Luckily for the Canucks, they're in no rush for top-six forwards.

It may take a few years, but 19-year-old Canucks prospect Nicklas Jensen from Denmark projects to be a difference-maker in the NHL. CLAUS ANDERSEN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

4 SPORTS

Canucks preview

Vancouver at Chicago
5 p.m.
(TSN)

The Canucks (43-21-8) head to the Windy City to face the Blackhawks (41-25-8) after losing five of their last seven games. Vancouver was shut out 2-0 by the Wild in the first game of a four-game road trip on Monday. Forward Manny Malhotra returned to the lineup in Minnesota after being out for two games with a personal matter. Winger Mason Raymond was a healthy scratch. Chicago is on a four-game winning streak, and has only one regulation loss in the past 10 games after Tuesday's 5-1 win over Columbus.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ready for summer driving?

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Staying planted

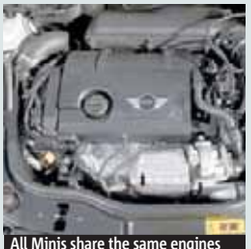
To reduce the Roadster body's tendency to twist — which is pretty normal behaviour when the roof is removed — Mini installed additional structural bracing in the trunk area and other key spots. And to help keep the rear end planted, a trunk-mounted spoiler automatically deploys once the vehicle reaches 80 km/h.

Lowering the lid

The black-only cloth top that includes a heated glass rear window is secured in place with a twist of a single windshield-mounted lever. The spring-loaded lid lowers flat into its stowage spot by pressing a button located between the roll bars. The outer portion of the top remains exposed after the folding process.

Mini Cooper Roadster

- **Type:** Two-door, front-wheel-drive two-seat convertible
- **Engines (hp):** 1.6-litre DOHC I4 (121); 1.6-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (181-208)
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy): 7.2/4.9 (base 1.6)
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $25,000



All Minis share the same engines that burn premium fuel.

Engine

The Roadster gets the same basic trio of engines as every other Mini model, beginning with a 121-horsepower 1.6-litre four-cylinder for base models. A turbocharged 1.6 comes in the S version, while a tweaked-up 208-horsepower 1.6 is part of the John Cooper Works (JCW) package.

Review. It carries half as many people as the convertible, yet costs a bit more – a fair price to pay for a little extra sporting flair

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Break out the SPF 50 and the Ray-Ban sunglasses because the Mini Cooper Roadster just arrived.

The two-seat convertible — a first for the Mini brand and a companion to the recently launched Coupe — adds some visual spice to the Mini's broadening model lineup that already includes a four-passenger drop-top. Admittedly, it seems a bit odd that BMW-owned Mini would now have two not-so-distinct convertibles that are constructed off the same platform and share the same mechanical bits. Furthermore, the two-seat Roadster lists for only $300 less than the standard four-place convertible.

Ah, but there's a point that's being overlooked. The Roadster swaps out the rear bench that isn't particularly roomy in the first place for an actual trunk (another Mini first). We're not talking cavernous space here by any means (it has a bit less volume than the Coupe's trunk) but it's enough to store a few decent-sized travel bags or a set or two of golf clubs regardless of whether the top is up or down.

The Roadster's styling is far less controversial than that of the helmet-headed Coupe and it looks better with the roof up than the existing Mini convertible. Combined with a windshield that has been tilted back an additional 13 degrees, the Roadster is one of the best looking of the bunch.

The hair-drying Roadster deserves its sports-car appellation. And, with pricing that ranges from $30,500 to $41,500, consider it an alternative to the league-leading Mazda Miata and an extra-fun way to celebrate the summer season.

Rollbars are obvious additions to the Roadster, but is there really anything more obvious than the giant speedometer at the top of the centre stack? The tachometer is located behind the steering wheel.

A mini with a trunk is a rare thing, but the Roadster has one. It takes the place of the rear seat in the four-passenger convertible model.

By comparison

1 Mazda MX-5 Miata
Base price: $30,500

2 Fiat 500c
Base price: $21,500

3 Smart Fortwo Cabriolet
Base price: $21,700

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

One product for all

If you have rubber, vinyl and leather — and many vehicles do — you need three separate cleaners and conditioners, right? That used to be the case until Mothers VLR (Vinyl, Leather and Rubber) came along. The idea here is to quickly take care of the three types of surfaces with one product. How can one product take care of three completely different surfaces? The formula contains something called neatsoil (which comes from cows) for conditioning/softening/preserving, and lanolin (which comes from sheep) for water protection. Mothers claims VLR will safely remove tough stains and ground-in dirt while conditioning against drying, fading and cracking. This new product will sell for about $10 wherever Mothers products are sold (in most big-box auto-parts stores such as Canadian Tire) or you can find out more at mothers.com.

On the web

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Wary of going it alone, automakers eye up dance partners

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The messages from some of the automakers at last week's Geneva auto show were somewhat contradictory.

Come look at all this great stuff we're building — way better than that crap the other guys build. Hey other guys, wouldn't mind a bit of help over here…

Just before the show, General Motors and the Peugeot-Citroen group announced an alliance, which will see GM will take a seven per cent share of the French automaker.

The arrangement is not unlike several that have developed over the last decade or so, between other auto titans, who have no intention of merging or allowing one partner to eventually swallow the other.

These new arrangements are all about trying to save costs on huge, global engineering programs.

Basically they're saying, we'll share development costs, because they're crazy expensive, then afterwards, we'll put them in our respective brand offerings and compete against each other like heck.

May the better man win, when it comes to exploiting that technology we both worked on.

With their vast R&D budgets and resources, you'd think most automakers would be big enough on their own, but analysts cite that looming fuel efficiency and emission targets are scaring the pants off some players, especially ones that don't have everything yet lined up in their pipelines.

And no one wants to bet the farm on one emerging technology, be it electric, hybrid, diesel, hydrogen, CNG, etc.

Another incentive to build alliances is to make sure you're not shut out of emerging markets.

A mature market is much harder to penetrate and less profitable. That's one of the reasons Chrysler-Fiat wants its next development dance partner to come from Asia (Mazda? Suzuki?), where it doesn't yet have a big presence.

Another reason is that the European marketplace isn't looking so good for the foreseeable future. Best go somewhere else for growth.

Another enabler of this trend is Volkswagen. The German automaker has gone on record, and made the point again at this year's show in Geneva, that it will spend over $70 billion over the next five years, to become the world's biggest automaker in both sales and profitability by 2018.

Currently standing in its way are GM and Toyota. If you are going to step into a ring with a bulked-up VW, you might want to bulk up a little yourself.

Toyota and BMW recently decided to trade respective technologies (hybrid batteries, diesel engines).

The Nissan-Renault alliance is going strong, and also works with Mercedes-Benz on a couple of projects. Those are just of few of the inter-company initiatives out there. And more will surely come.

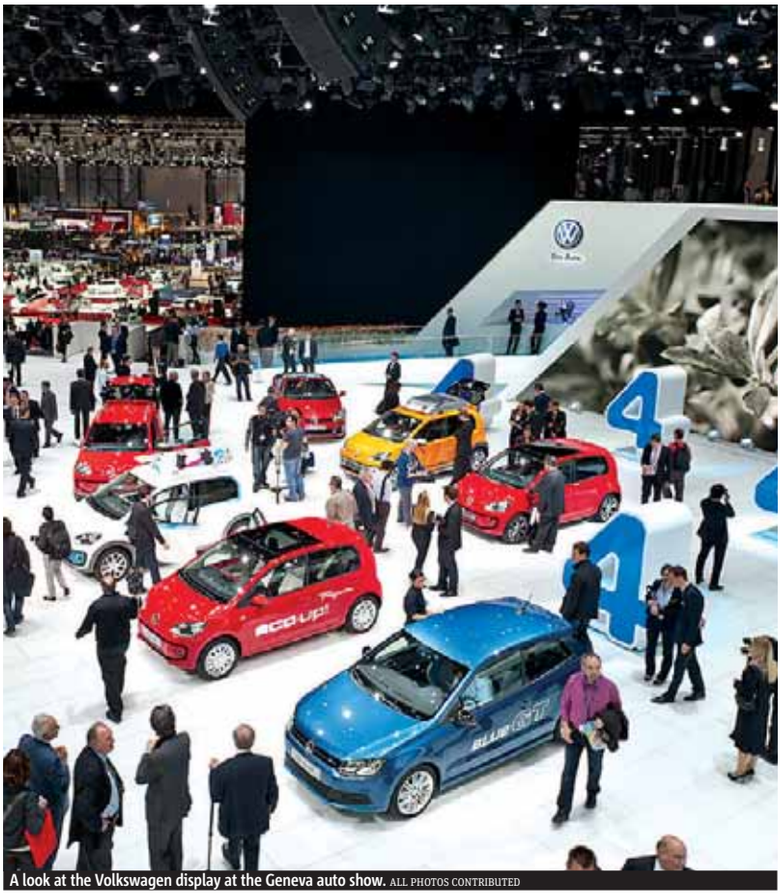
Will this make life harder on the small, quirkier manufacturers? Likely not. It hasn't yet.

The Geneva show was again full of specialty makes with weird ideas. You can't stop creative thought and drive, especially when someone, yet again, wants to build a car company in their vision. So it seems all good.

And it feels strangely hopeful too, and humane even, that some of the biggest companies in the world can figure out a way to work together, and at the same time, compete so fiercely in the marketplace.

It's heart warming … It's life affirming … It's … Hold on … Suddenly feeling verklempt … Please talk amongst yourselves.

A model poses with an Alfa Romeo.



A look at the Volkswagen display at the Geneva auto show. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

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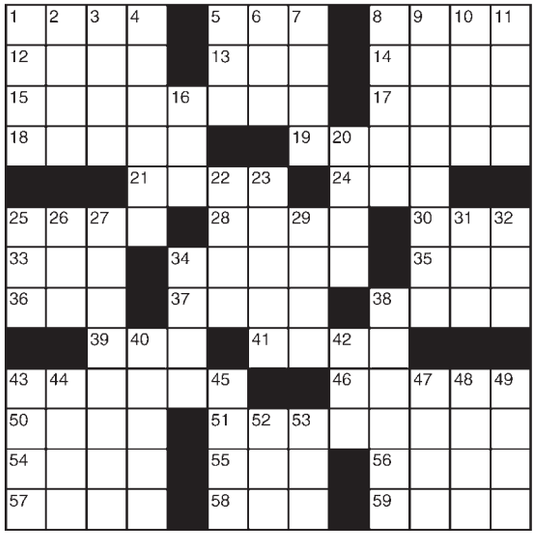
Crossword



Across

1 Segment
5 Science room
8 Arizona city
12 On the briny
13 Id counterpart
14 Terrible guy?
15 Approve
17 Cheerful tune
18 Wheel radius
19 "— With Wolves"
21 Chantilly, e.g.
24 Understand
25 Initial stake
28 Burn soother
30 Altar affirmative
33 Scoundrel
34 Work dough
35 "— Town"
36 Greek H
37 Pruritus
38 Elbow counterpart
39 Cornfield cry
41 Melody
43 Riga's land
46 Lightweight wood
50 Sills solo
51 Meeting place
54 Lowly worker
55 "All the Things You —"
56 Muscat's land
57 Huff and puff
58 Louis —
59 "Unh-unh"

Down

1 Go by
2 Memo acronym
3 Gambling mecca
4 Stop the ballcarrier
5 Souvenir from 29-Down
6 Past
7 007
8 Pooh's creator
9 Bad news from the landlord
10 Post-Christmas event
11 Picnic intruders
16 Afternoon social
20 On in years
22 Lacks the skills to
23 Vote into office
25 Expert
26 Enthusiast
27 Force exerted by pulling
29 Aloha Tower site
31 Payable
32 Tramcar load
34 Fuzzy fruit
38 Michael, Diane or Buster
40 — -garde
42 Leno's network
43 Reindeer herder, maybe
44 Vicinity
45 Trojan War hero
47 Prom-night transport
48 Bathday cake?
49 Hathaway or Heche
52 Spoon-bender Geller
53 3-Down's st.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Monday's answer

J	A	C	K	■	A	P	R	■	G	R	E	W
A	L	O	E	■	R	O	E	■	I	O	T	A
B	E	N	E	F	I	T	S	■	G	O	U	T
■	■	■	P	E	A	■	P	R	O	F	I	T
S	H	R	E	W	■	C	O	O	L	■	■	■
T	O	U	R	■	B	E	N	D	O	V	E	R
A	N	I	■	S	E	N	S	E	■	O	R	E
B	E	N	Z	O	A	T	E	■	V	I	N	E
■	■	■	O	U	R	S	■	M	O	D	E	L
F	E	D	O	R	A	■	K	A	Y	■	■	■
O	V	U	M	■	B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N
P	I	K	E	■	L	E	E	■	G	A	T	E
S	L	E	D	■	E	K	E	■	E	R	S	T

Sudoku

	6		4		9			2
				2		1		7
				1		6	3	
	1						8	5
			8		7			
8	3						2	
	2	7		8				
9		1		4				
5			9		1		7	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Monday's answer

2	6	4	5	3	9	1	8	7
7	5	1	6	8	2	4	3	9
9	8	3	7	4	1	5	2	6
1	7	9	3	6	8	2	4	5
5	3	6	2	7	4	9	1	8
4	2	8	1	9	5	7	6	3
6	1	2	8	5	7	3	9	4
3	9	5	4	2	6	8	7	1
8	4	7	9	1	3	6	5	2

Send a kiss

- **Love Birds.** Since you have come into my life I have been so happy. You have given me so much joy. Time spent with you is never boring, we laugh and carry on, we enjoy the same things, thank you for rescuing me. I hope to spend the rest of my days with you. From the blues man
- **AC.** put the two together and feel the electrical vibes racing through our veins. Feel the hope of what tomorrow will bring. Learn from yesterday's experiences. Once again, sending a good night kiss to the lover of my main dreams... heart aches by every beat...sit outside in the dark and enjoy the warm evening night after a thunder shower. FDC
- **MyPet.** Very difficult when in the scene where am reminded of you. Recieving hugs and kisses from you makes me miss you even more.I don't know how to handle it... From lost myself
- **Chad.** I wish i could let you know how much i like you, someday you will know. 2Shy2SayHi

Today 9°/4° Sunny
Thursday 7°/4° Showers 60%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
©The Weather Network 2012

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. Be careful what you ask for today because you won't be able to give it back if you change your mind.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You may find it hard to resist something that's bad for you today. But maybe it's OK to give in to your less disciplined side.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. A friend will have a profound effect on your opinions and beliefs today, but don't go changing your entire outlook on life.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. There is a danger you could make some illogical decisions over the next 24 hours. On the work front, especially, think carefully.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Not everyone sees the world through your eyes and you would do well to remember that fact today.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You may be worried about your money situation but that's OK because it will encourage you to search harder for a solution.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. A relationship is going through major changes at the moment. Don't make any hasty decisions. There's still time for you to decide.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You need to face up to reality and admit that something is wrong. It won't be as painful as you fear.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Changes in the wider world will lead to new opportunities for you personally. Be ready.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Someone you are close to will do something that takes you by surprise. Others think differently.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Things won't happen the way you expect them to over the next 24 hours but if you refuse to worry, everything will come right.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Life is not a zero sum game: There does not have to be a loser every time there is a winner.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"When it comes to doggie fashion, I think I'm it!"
Rick

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ GRAHAM HUGHES

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's Metro.

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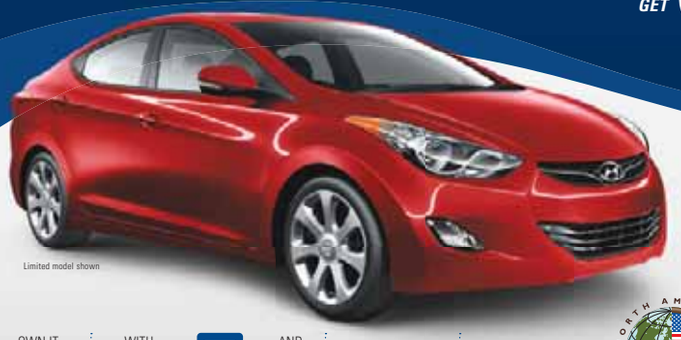

Limited model shown

OWN IT $102† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

WITH 1.9% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

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AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $17,344* ELANTRA L 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

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2012 CANADIAN AND NORTH AMERICAN CAR OF THE YEAR ELANTRA SEDAN

$500 FACTORY TO DEALER CREDIT‡

GLS model shown

2012 ELANTRA TOURING

Spirit & practicality in perfect balance

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SELLING PRICE: $16,794* INCLUDES $500 FACTORY TO DEALER CREDIT‡ ELANTRA TOURING L 5-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

HIGHWAY 6.4L/100 KM 44 MPG▼

BONUS 7 YEAR WARRANTY 120,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY

Limited model shown

2012 SONATA

Most fuel-efficient full-size car▲

OWN IT $134† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

SAVE 25¢/L UNTIL 2013◊

AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $24,264* SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM 50 MPG▼

Limited model shown

2012 SANTA FE

Powerful & efficient – the true definition of a cross-over

OWN IT $142† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT

WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

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SELLING PRICE: $25,759* SANTA FE GL 2.4 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

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$1,500 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊

GLS model shown

2012 VERACRUZ

"It's a seven-seater, mid-size SUV with serious cargo and people-carrying capacity." – the Globe and Mail

7 PASSENGER SEATING

OWN IT $186† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT INCLUDES $1500 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊

WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS

SAVE 40¢/L UNTIL 2013◊

AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $33,759* INCLUDES $1,500 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊ VERACRUZ GL FWD. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

HIGHWAY 8.5L/100 KM 33 MPG▼

BONUS 7 YEAR WARRANTY 120,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY

5 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY

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